Archie
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KNUCKLES
THE ECHIDNA
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KNUCKLES

Book Ten

The Forgotten Tribe

Part One of Three

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Knuckles The Echidna No. 10, Mar., 1996. Published monthly by Archie Comic Publications, Inc., 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318. Richard H. Goldwater, President and Co-Publisher, Michael I. Silberkleit, Chairman and Co-Publisher. Single copies $1.75 in the U.S., $1.85 in Canada. Subscription rate: U.S., $17.50 [illegible] $18.50 in Canada. [illegible] the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Knuckles The Echidna [illegible] related characters and indicia are trademarks of Sega. © 1996 Sega. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Any similarities between characters, names, persons, and/or institutions in this [illegible] and any living, dead, or fictional characters, names, persons, and/or institutions are not intended and if they exist, are purely coincidental. Periodicals postage paid at the post office at Mamaroneck, New York and at additional mailing offices. [illegible] registered in U.S. patent office. POSTMASTER, send address changes to Knuckles The Echidna, [illegible] Publications, Inc., 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318. Printed in Canada.

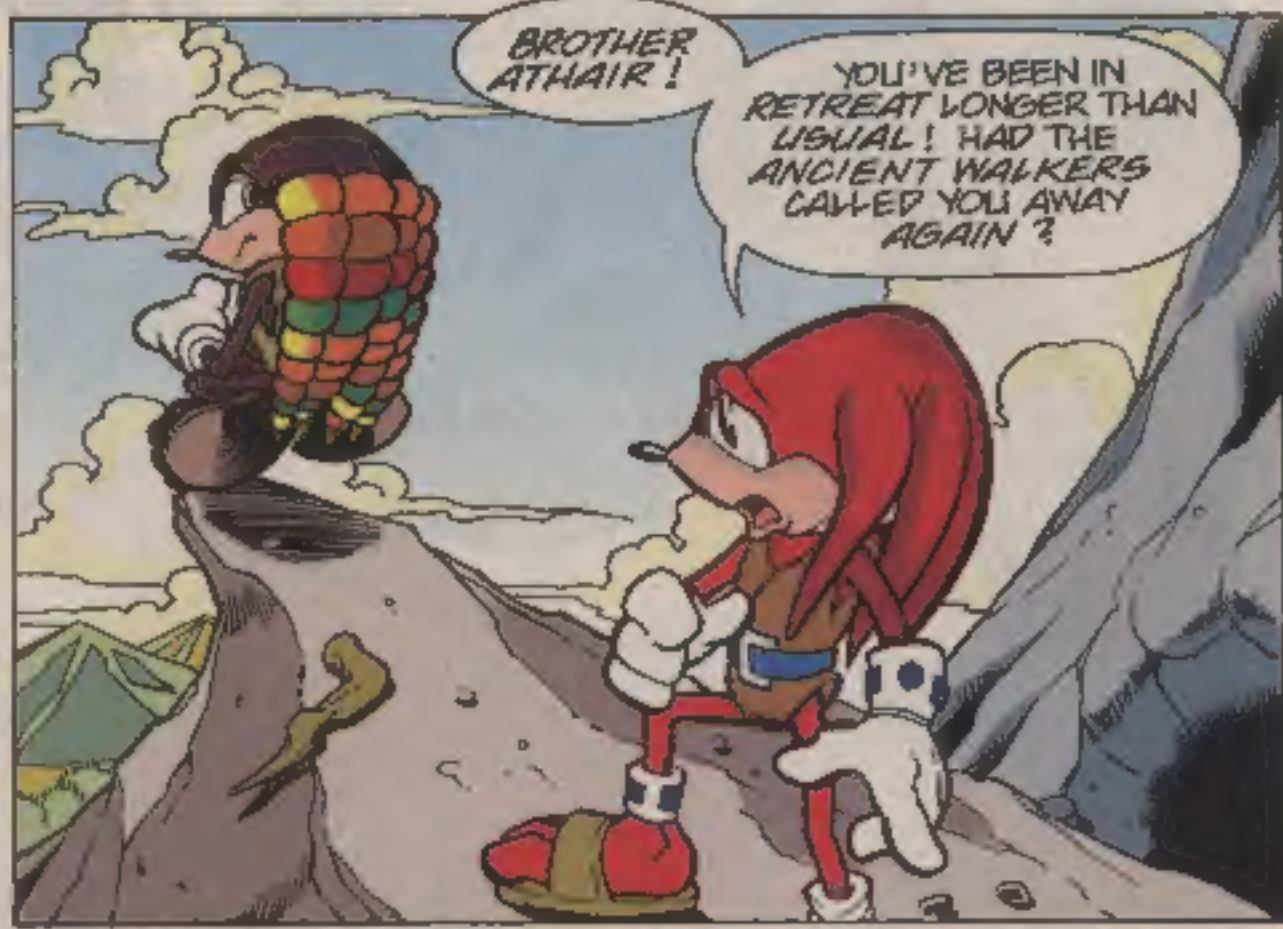
SPAZ 97

BORN TO THE MOST NOBLE OF ECHIDNA HOUSES, THE LATEST TO CONTINUE THE FAMILY HERITAGE AND RESPONSIBILITY AS GUARDIAN OF THE FLOATING ISLAND, DEFENDER OF ALL FROM THE FORCES OF EVIL FROM THE WORLD BEYOND AS WELL AS THOSE WHO WOULD THREATEN WITHIN, HE IS NONE OTHER THAN KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA!

IT IS THE DAWN OF A NEW DAY. KNUCKLES HAS SURVIVED HIS RECENT BATTLE AGAINST THE FORCES OF THE DARK LEGION, ENERJAK AND MAMMOTH MOGUL. HE HAS ALSO SURVIVED SOME OF THE DEADLIEST PERILS HE HAS EVER ENCOUNTERED WITHIN HIS SHORT LIFESPAN. NOW, HE FINDS HIMSELF CONFRONTED WITH MAKING A CHOICE BETWEEN HIS OBLIGATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE FLOATING ISLAND VERSUS HIS RESPONSIBILITIES TO ECHIDNAS EVERYWHERE, NO MATTER WHERE THEY MAY BE.

HELPING KNUCKLES FIND HIS WAY IS THE LAST ECHIDNA IN THE WORLD HE'D EVER TURN TO , HIS GREAT-GRANDFATHER ATHAIR. IT IS WITH HIM THAT OUR TALE TRULY BEGINS...

Yea, though he be his brother's keeper,
there will come a time
when the heralds beckon,
raising the guardian to a higher plane,
and another shall lead them to journey's end...
Jome of Prophecies



I WAS IN DEEP CONTEMPLATION CONCERNING RECENT EVENTS I HAD TO PLAY A PART IN—AND HOW THAT IS NOTHING COMPARED TO WHAT WILL HAPPEN SOON*.
* SEE KNUCKLES #9, AND SONIC #56—JFG.
IT WILL NOT BE LONG BEFORE THE DAY OF FURY IS WITH US!
WE HAD BEST HAVE THE TRIBE PACK UP AND MOVE ON!
ARE WE ANYWHERE NEAR REFUGE, BROTHER ATHAIR?

The Other Road Taken

JOURNEY'S END IS STILL A DISTANCE IN THE FUTURE!
MY PATH ALONG THIS LONG ROAD, HOWEVER, IS AT AN END! IT IS THE TIME OF THE OTHER!
YOU WILL NOW LEAD OUR PEOPLE ONWARDS!

B-BUT I AM NOT THE OTHER BROTHER, ATHAIR!
I AM MERELY A DISCIPLE!
YOU WERE NEVER MERELY A DISCIPLE, YANAR! BUT THIS IS YOUR CHARGE UNTIL THE OTHER ARRIVES.
HE WILL COME TO DEPEND ON YOUR COUNCIL AS I HAVE!

I WILL DO MY BEST!
THIS WAY, EVERYONE!
WE HAVE A LONG JOURNEY AHEAD!

I FEEL AS IF I WERE A PARENT WATCHING A CHILD LEAVE THE NEST!

AND I COULD NOT LOVE YANAR MORE, WERE HE MY OWN SON!
I ONLY WISH SABRE HAD BEEN AS UNDER-STANDING!

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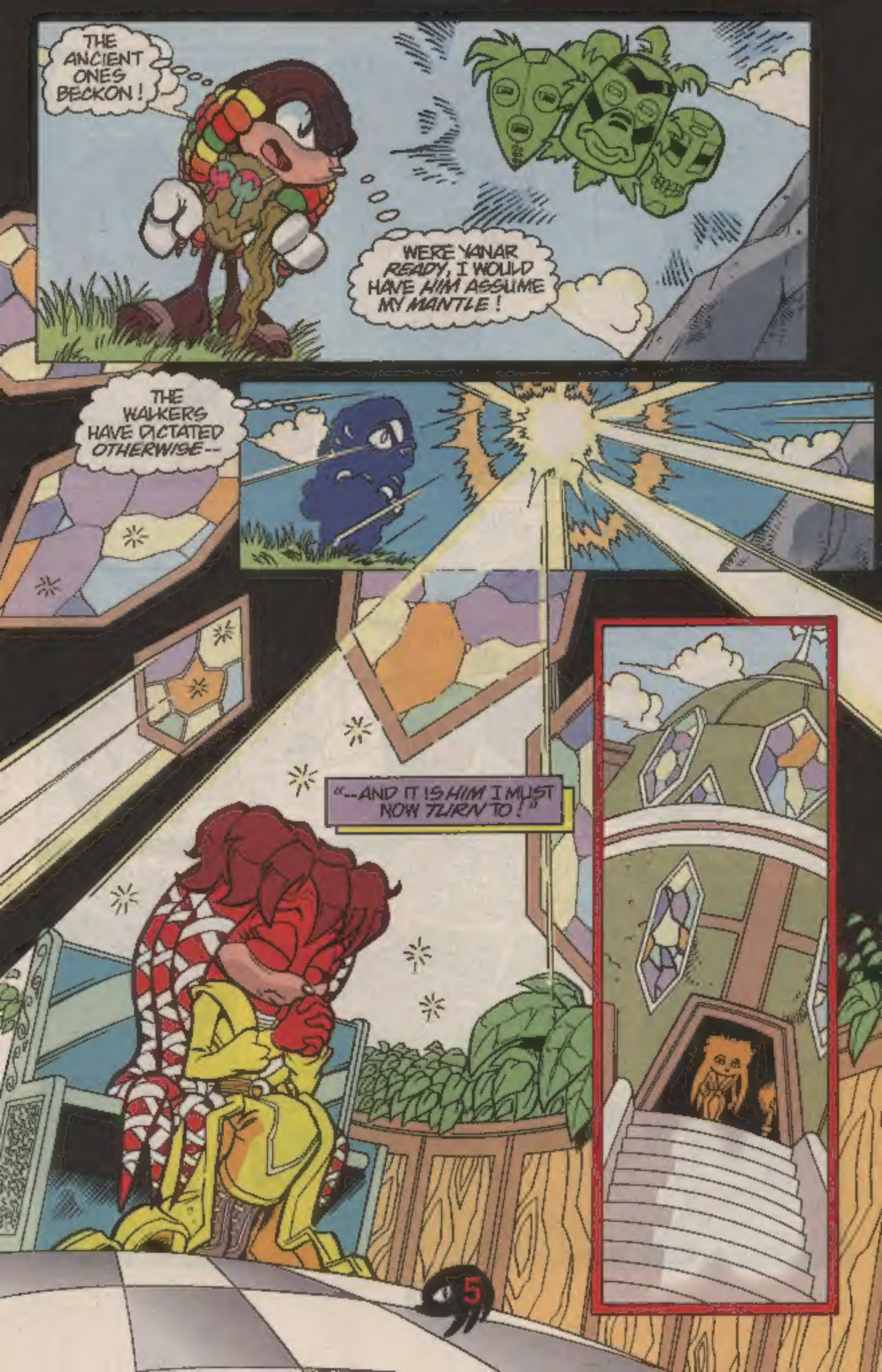
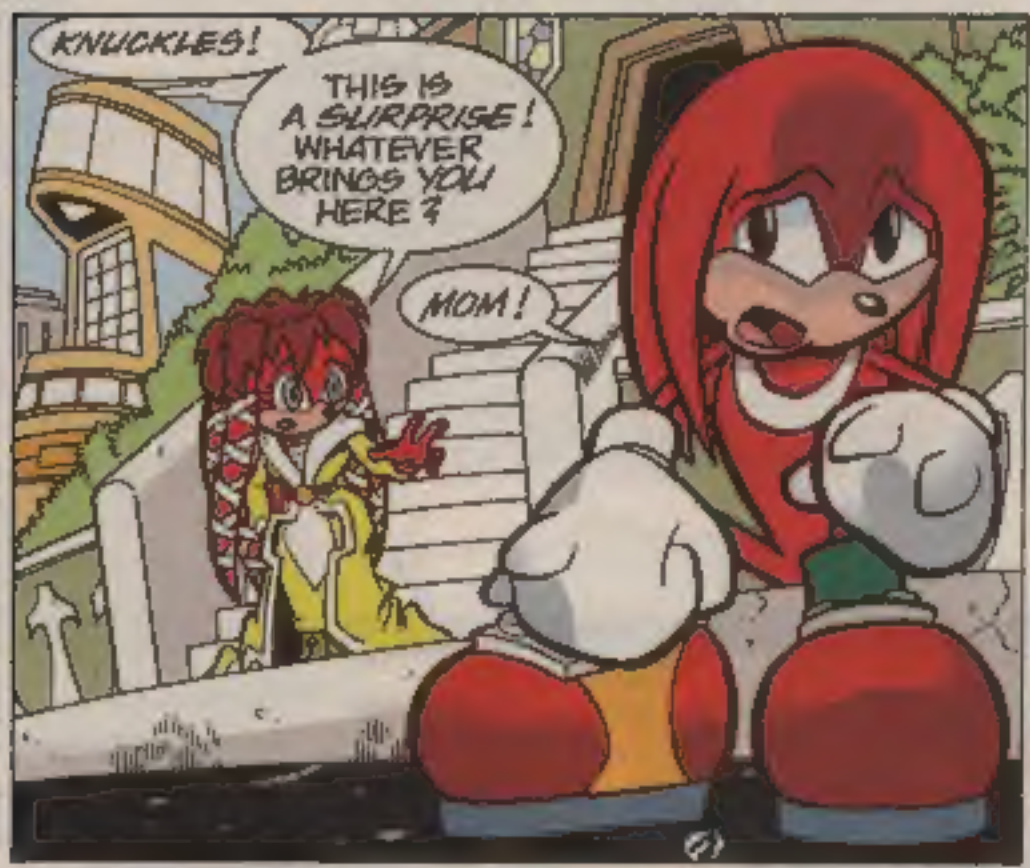

THE ANCIENT ONES BECKON!
WERE YANAR READY, I WOULD HAVE HIM ASSUME MY MANTLE!
THE WALKERS HAVE DICTATED OTHERWISE--
"--AND IT IS HIM I MUST NOW TURN TO!"


KNUCKLES!
THIS IS A SURPRISE! WHATEVER BRINGS YOU HERE?
MOM!

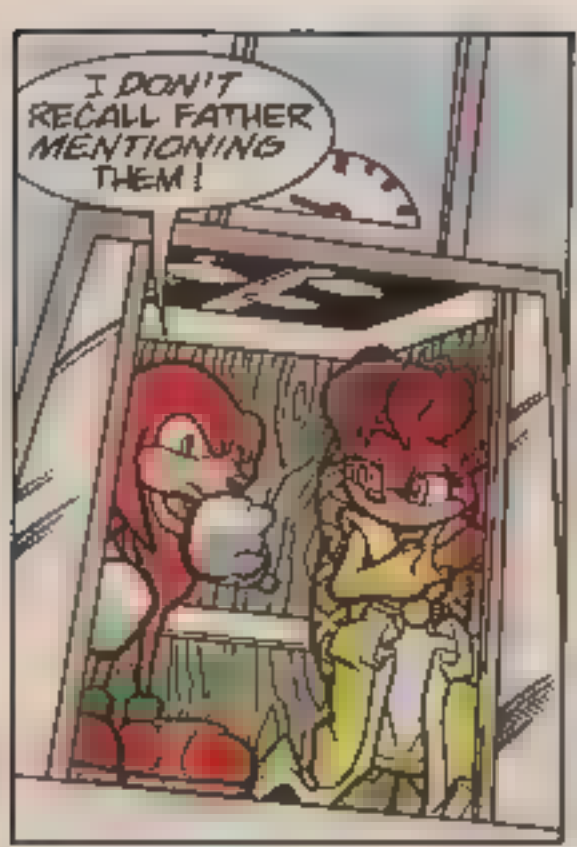
I WAS ON MY WAY TO ECHIDNA SECURITY TEAM HQ WHEN I SAW YOU GO IN!
I DECIDED TO HANG AROUND AND WAIT FOR YOU INSTEAD!

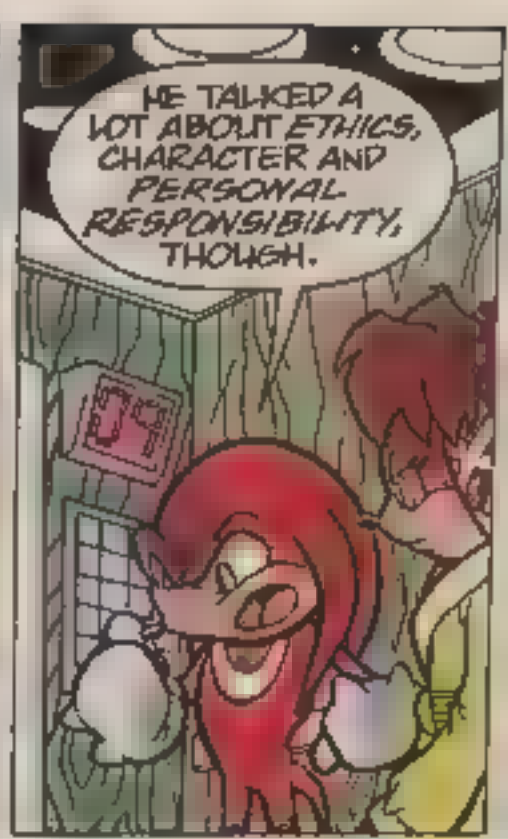
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO WAIT OUTSIDE, MY SON--
--AS EVERYONE IS WELCOME INSIDE THE AURORIUM!

I JUST DIDN'T FEEL--COMFORTABLE!

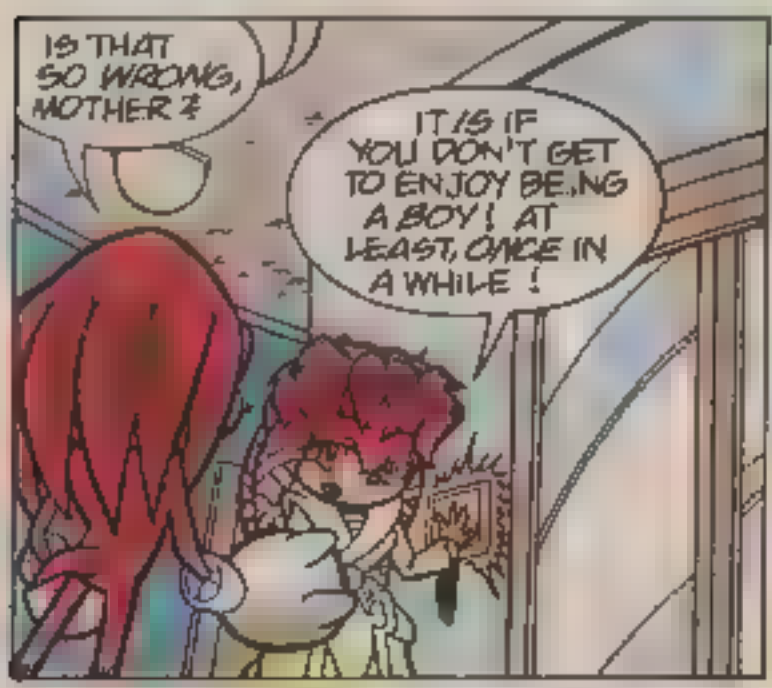
CONSIDERING YOUR FATHER RAISED YOU ON THE FLOATING ISLAND INSTEAD OF ECHIDNAOPOLIS--
--I'M NOT SURPRISED!
ECHIDNA TOWERS
FATHER TAUGHT ME HISTORY, MATHEMATICS, GEOGRAPHY, THE SCIENCES--

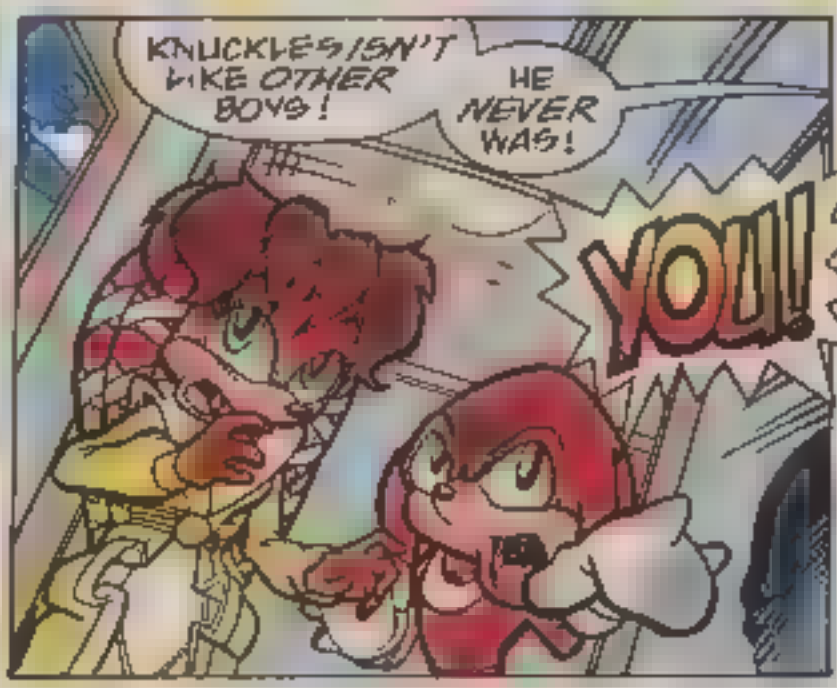
DID HE TEACH YOU THE TOMES?

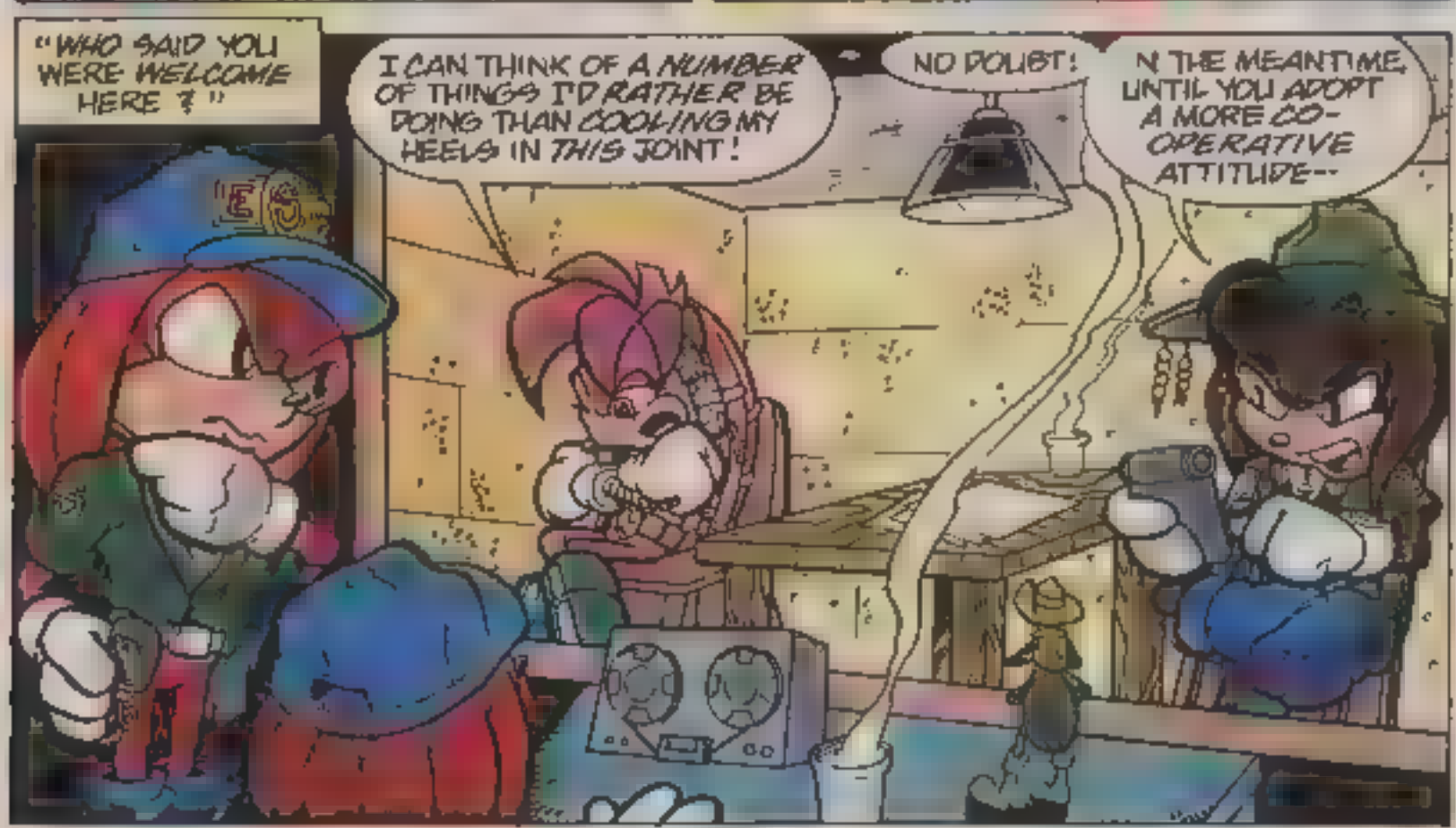

I DON'T RECALL FATHER MENTIONING THEM!


HE TALKED A LOT ABOUT ETHICS, CHARACTER AND PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY, THOUGH.

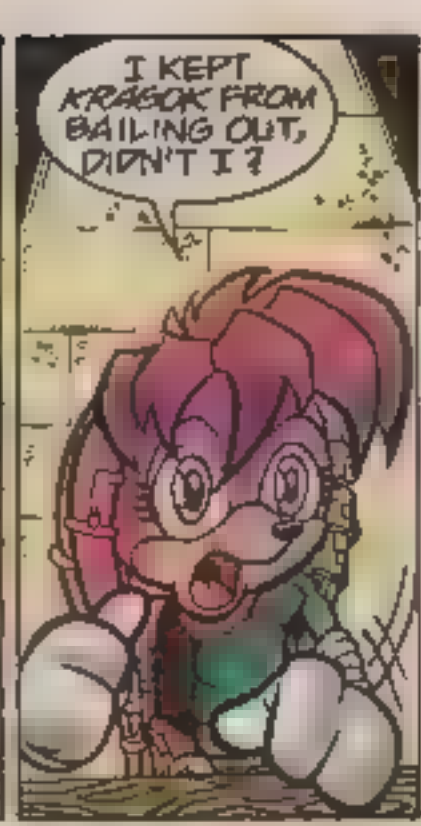
IN SHORT, HE WAS TEACHING YOU TO BECOME A GUARDIAN!

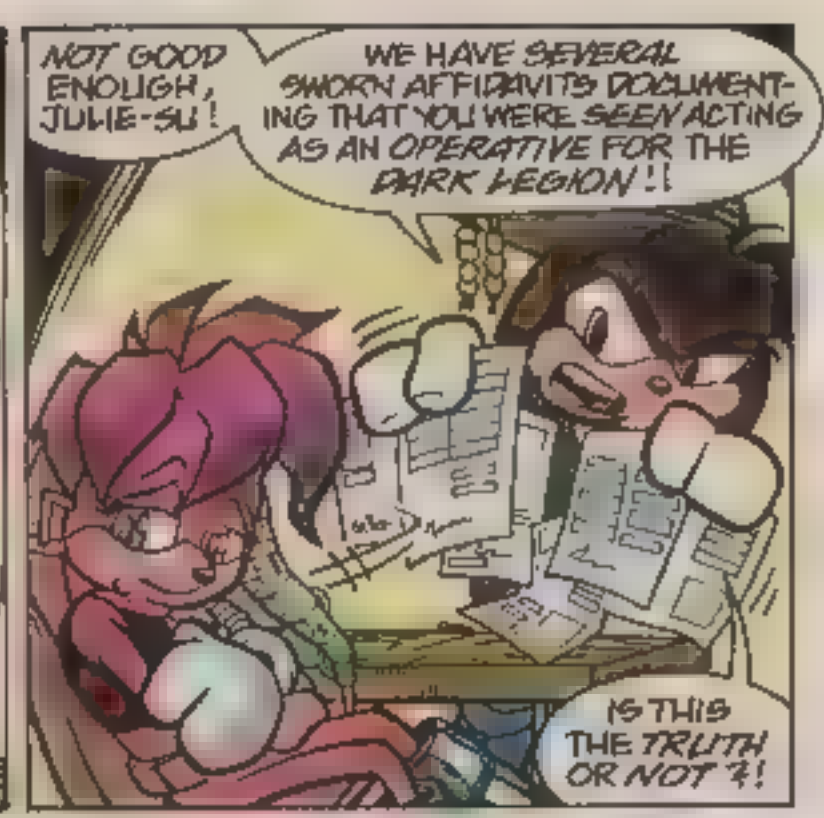

IS THAT SO WRONG, MOTHER?
IT IS IF YOU DON'T GET TO ENJOY BEING A BOY! AT LEAST, ONCE IN A WHILE!


KNUCKLES ISN'T LIKE OTHER BOYS!
HE NEVER WAS!
YOU!

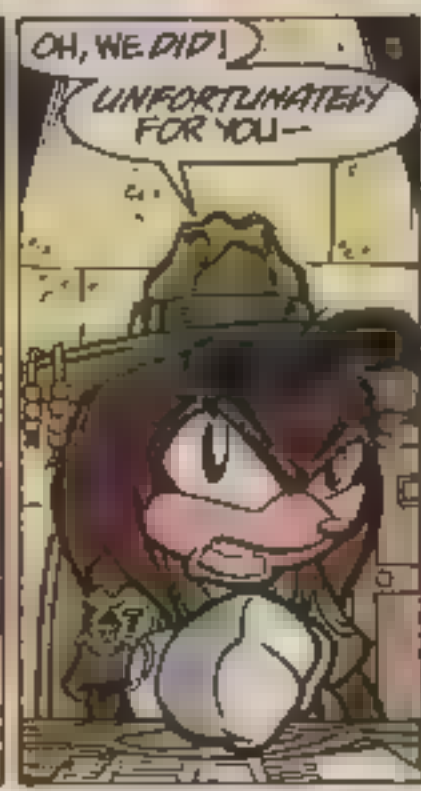

"WHO SAID YOU WERE WELCOME HERE?"
I CAN THINK OF A NUMBER OF THINGS I'D RATHER BE DOING THAN COOLING MY HEELS IN THIS JOINT!
NO DOUBT!
IN THE MEANTIME, UNTIL YOU ADOPT A MORE CO-OPERATIVE ATTITUDE--

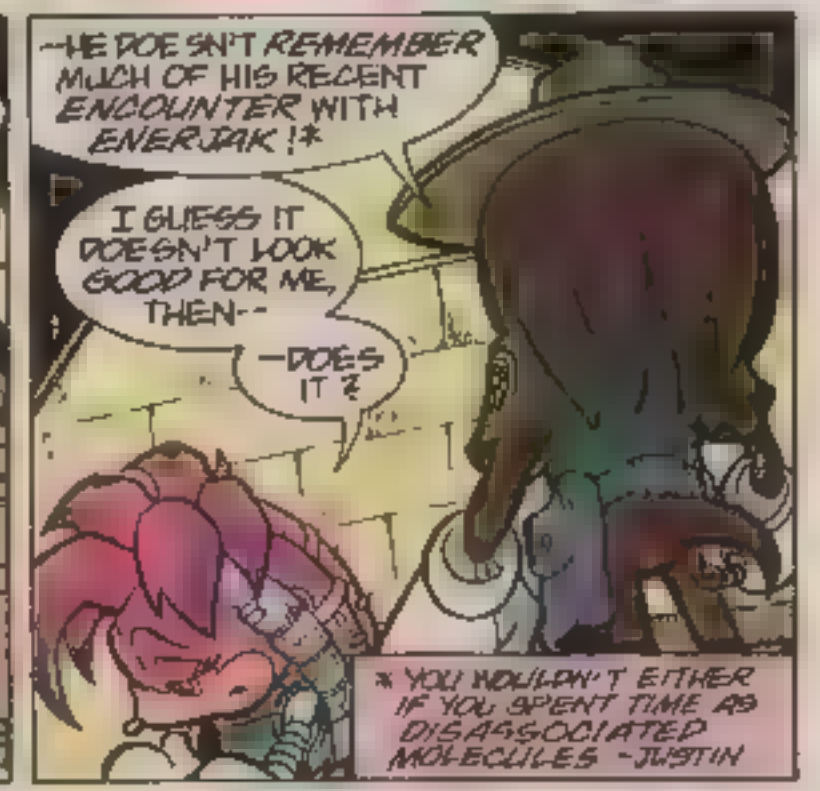
-YOU'D BETTER GET USED TO IT!

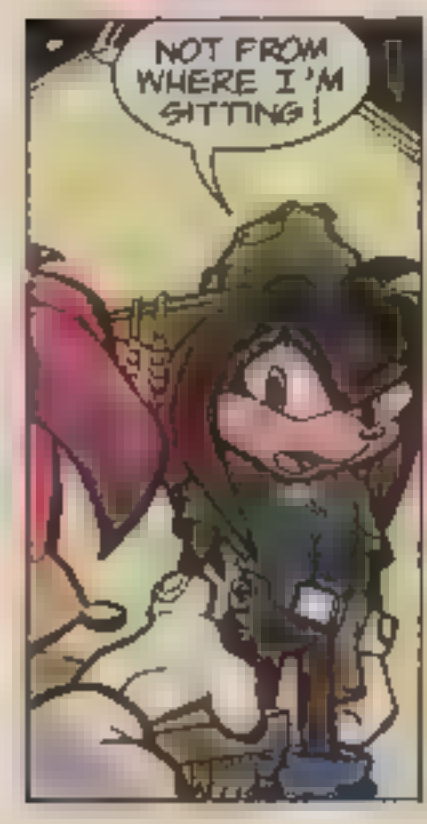

I KEPT KRASOK FROM BAILING OUT, DIDN'T I?

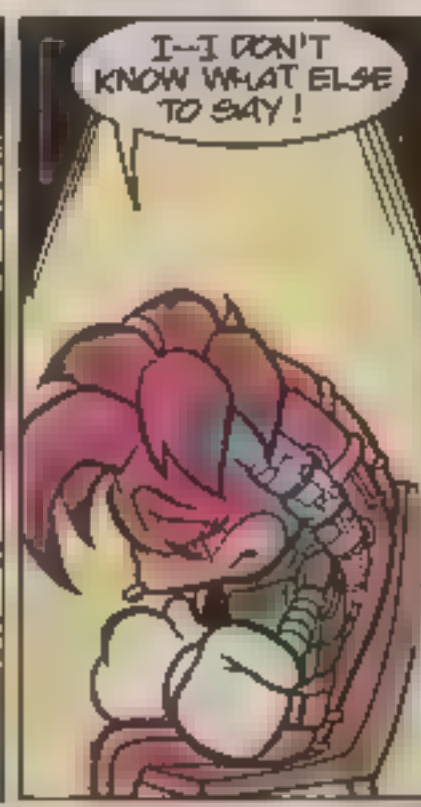

NOT GOOD ENOUGH, JULIE-SU!
WE HAVE SEVERAL SWORN AFFIDAVITS DOCUMENTING THAT YOU WERE SEEN ACTING AS AN OPERATIVE FOR THE DARK LEGION!!
IS THIS THE TRUTH OR NOT?!

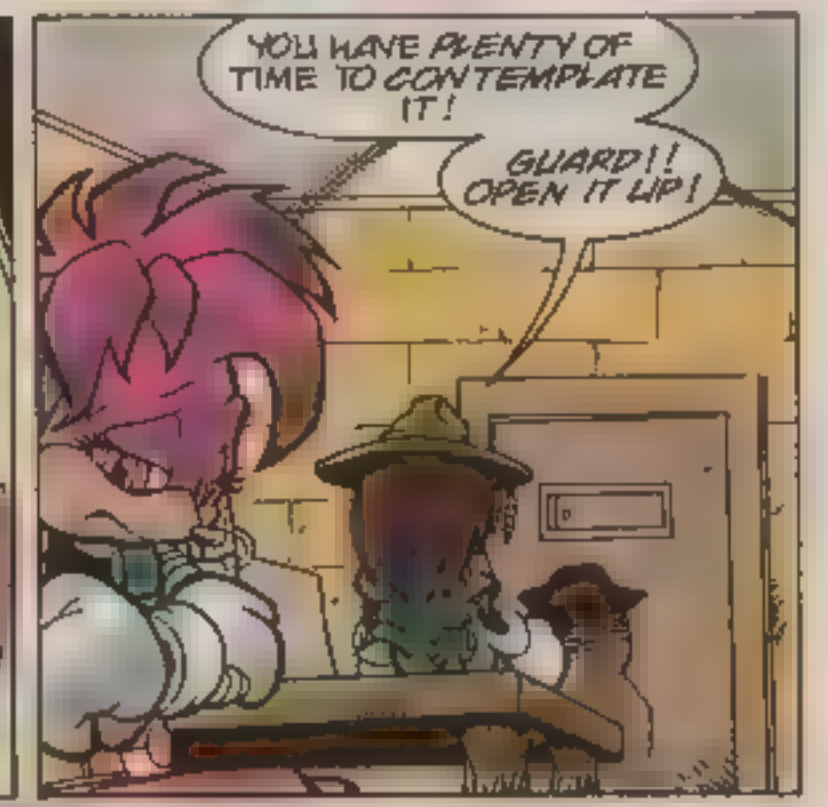
WHY DON'T YOU ASK KNUCKLES?


OH, WE DID!
UNFORTUNATELY FOR YOU--

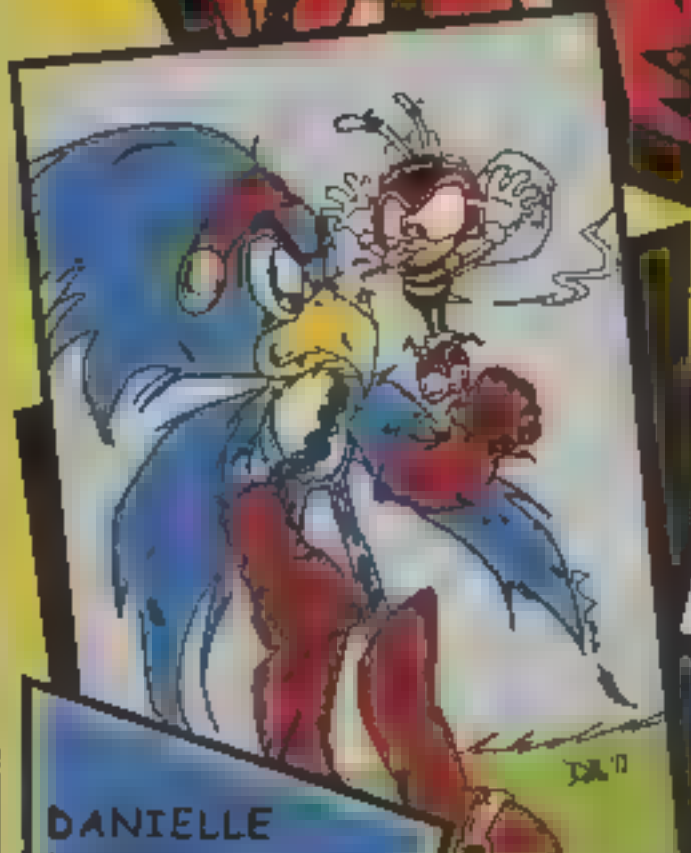

--HE DOESN'T REMEMBER MUCH OF HIS RECENT ENCOUNTER WITH ENERJAK!*
I GUESS IT DOESN'T LOOK GOOD FOR ME, THEN--
--DOES IT?
* YOU WOULDN'T EITHER IF YOU SPENT TIME AS DISASSOCIATED MOLECULES -JUSTIN


NOT FROM WHERE I'M SITTING!


I--I DON'T KNOW WHAT ELSE TO SAY!

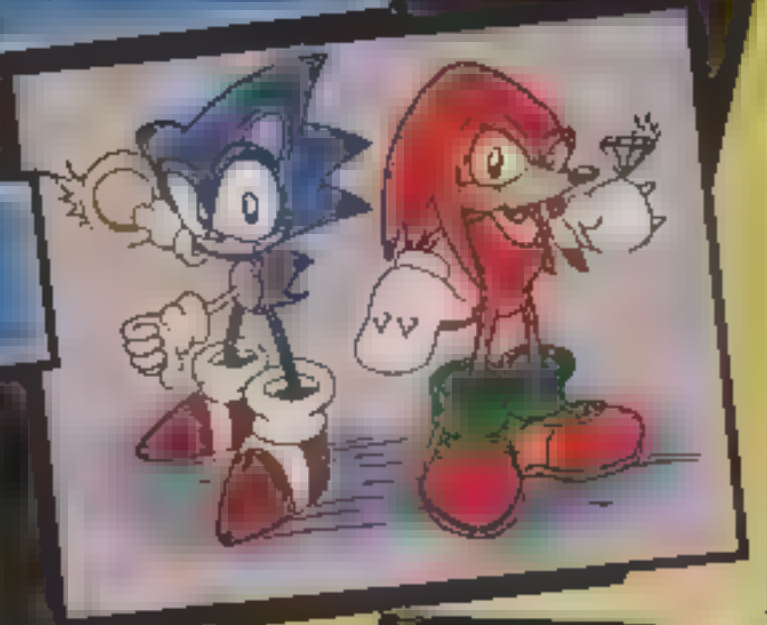

YOU HAVE PLENTY OF TIME TO CONTEMPLATE IT!
GUARD!! OPEN IT UP!

FANART



DANIELLE
HARDY
DETROIT, MI

BRIAN COOK
HOLLAND, MI
AGE 13



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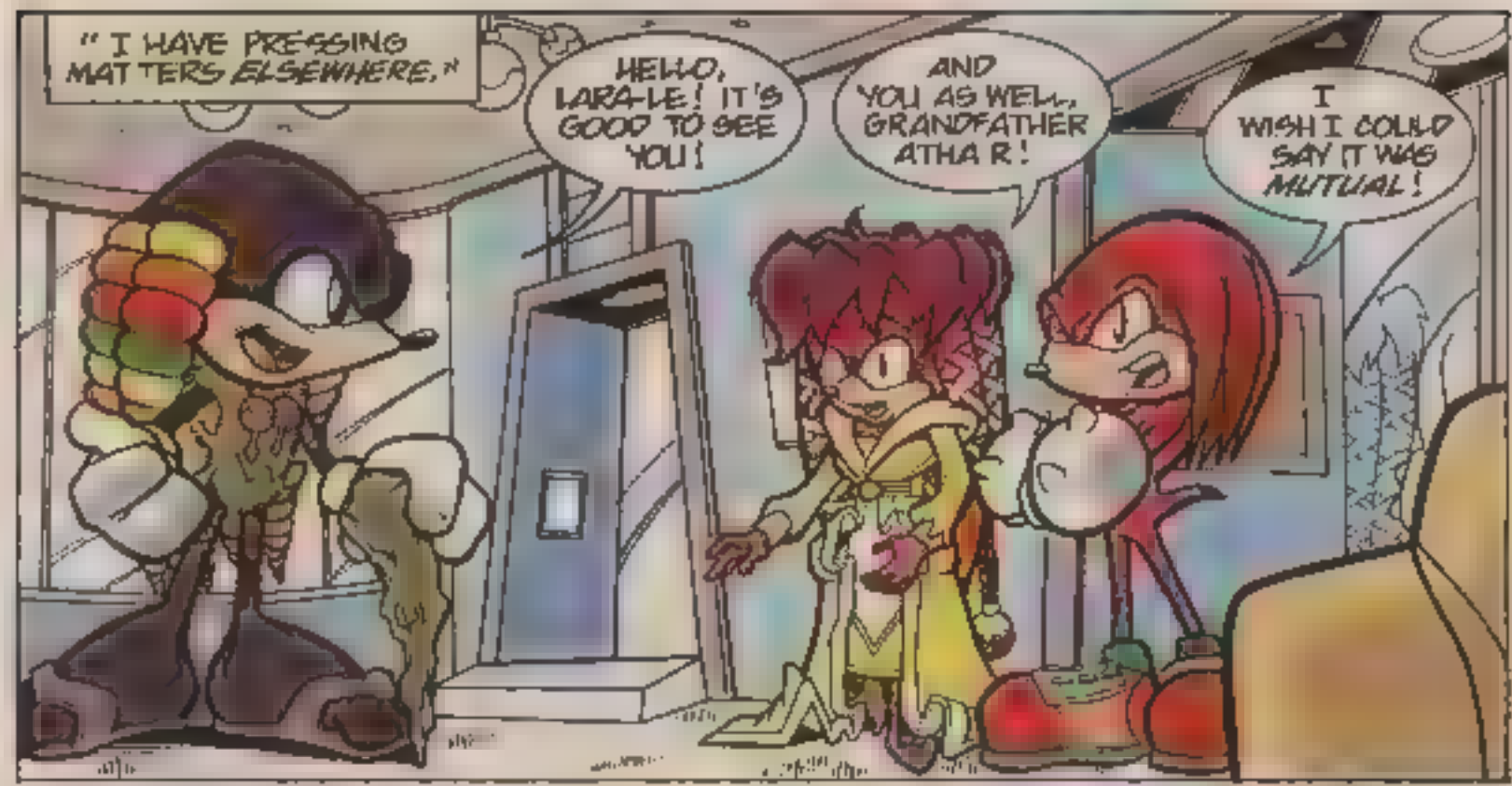
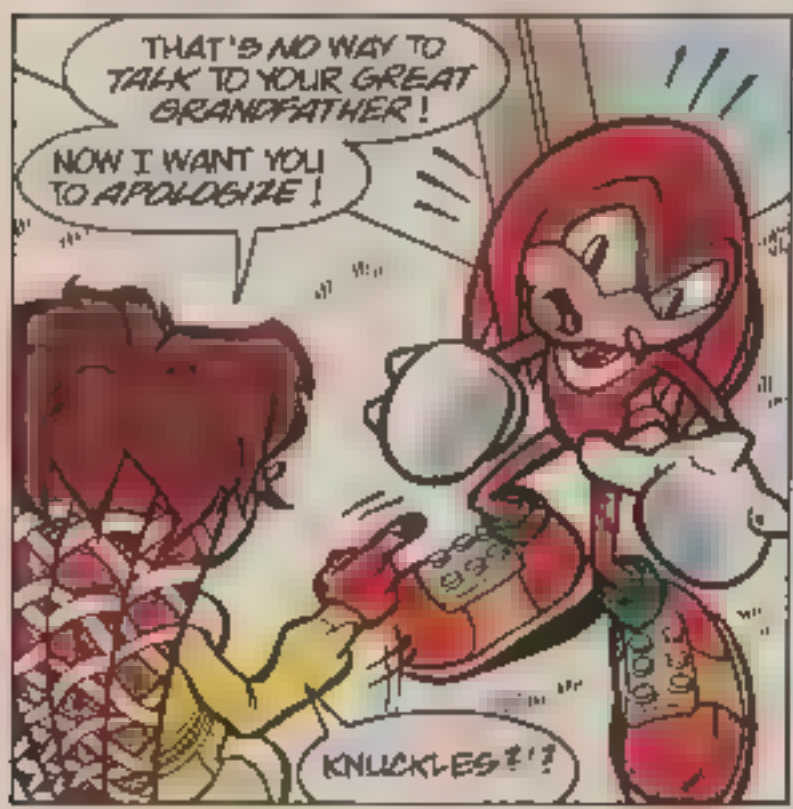
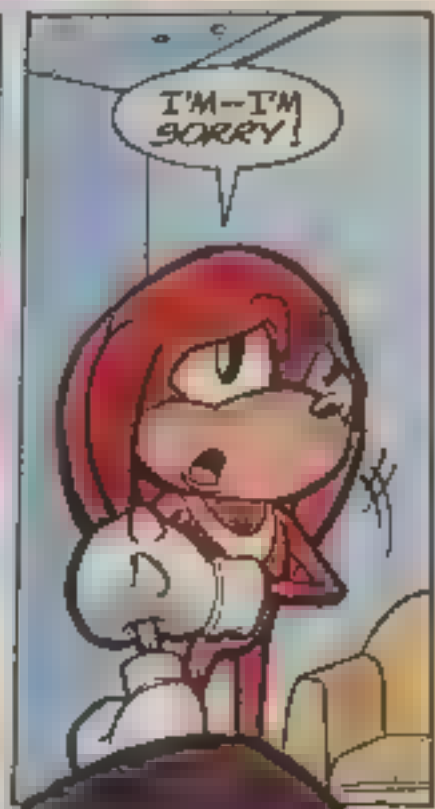
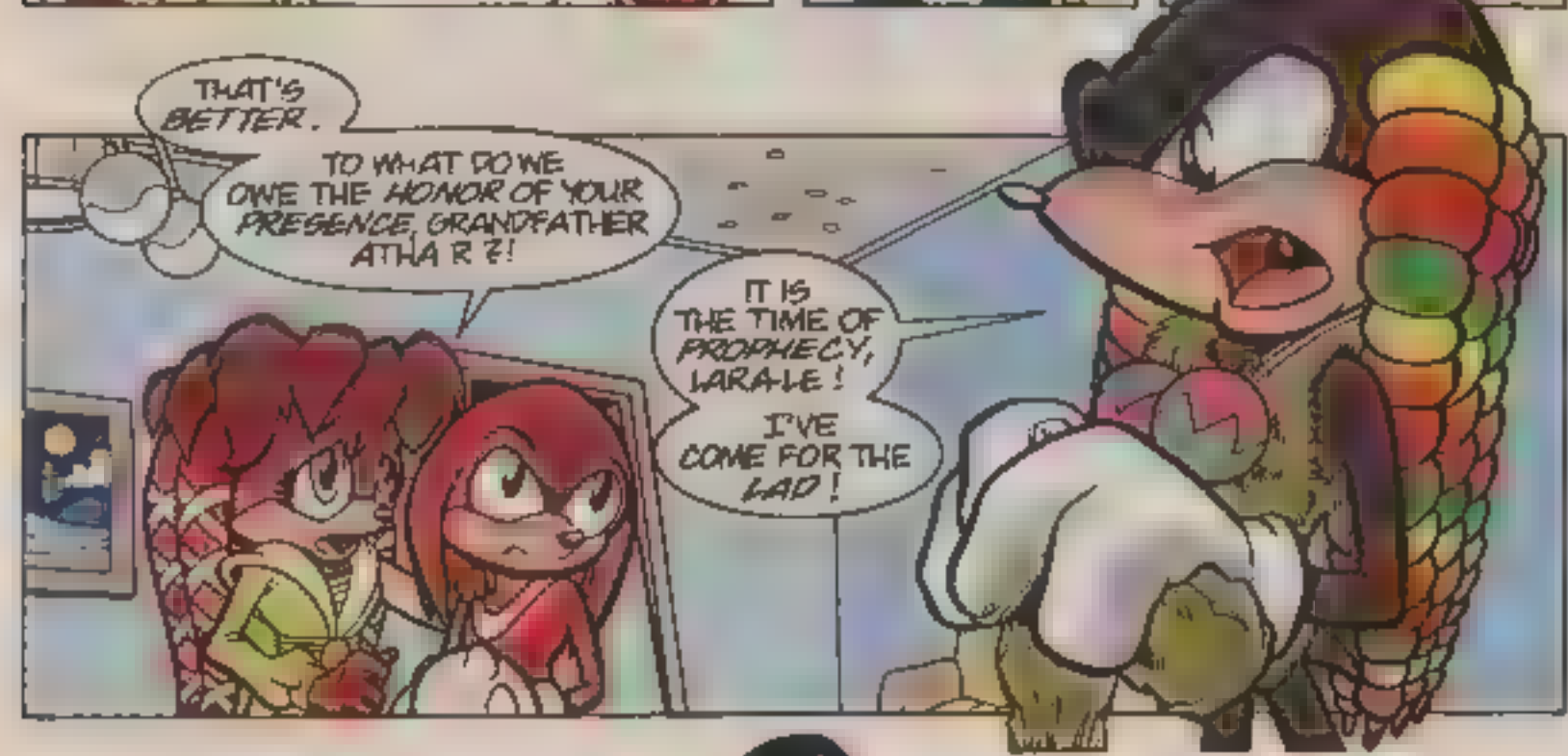
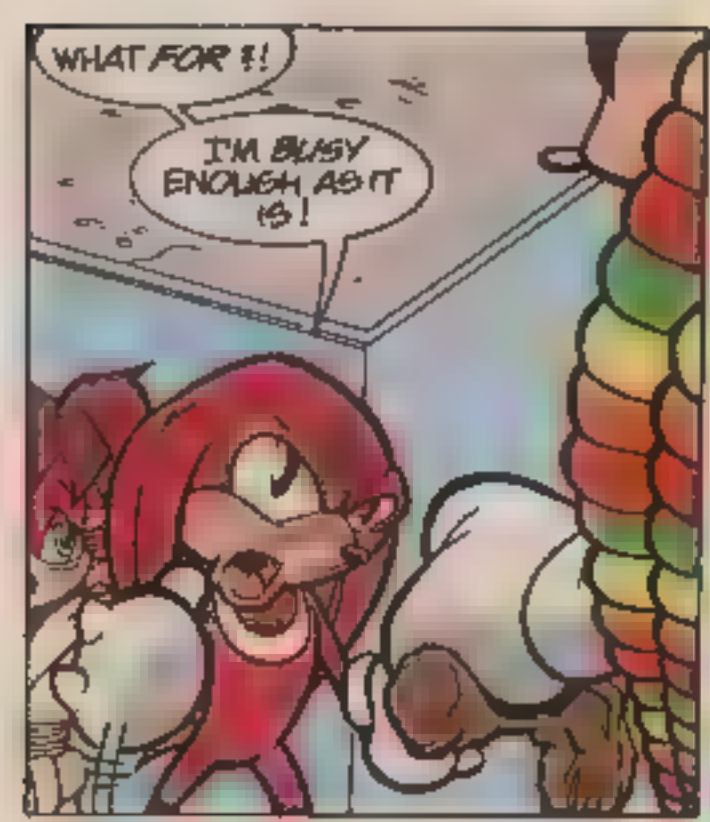
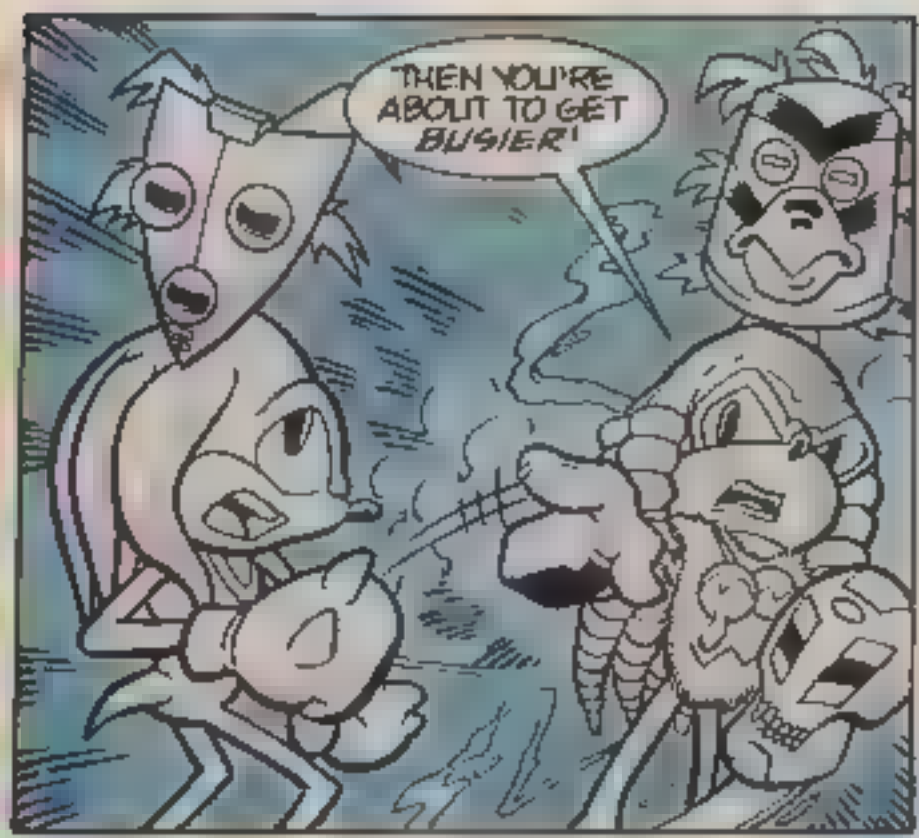

"I HAVE PRESSING MATTERS ELSEWHERE."
HELLO, LARA-LE! IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU!
AND YOU AS WELL, GRANDFATHER ATHA R!
I WISH I COULD SAY IT WAS MUTUAL!


THAT'S NO WAY TO TALK TO YOUR GREAT GRANDFATHER!
NOW I WANT YOU TO APOLOGIZE!
KNUCKLES?!?


I'M--I'M SORRY!

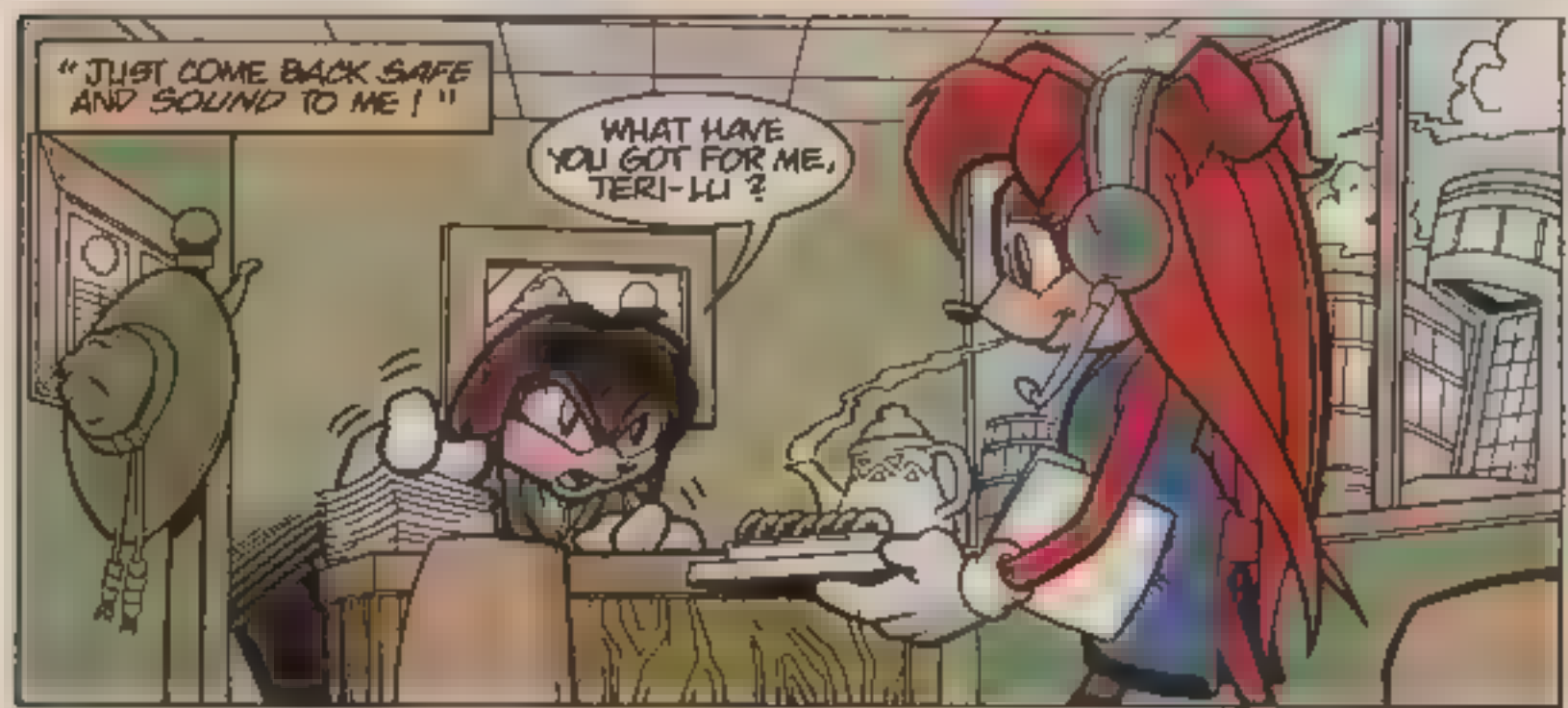

THAT'S BETTER.
TO WHAT DO WE OWE THE HONOR OF YOUR PRESENCE, GRANDFATHER ATHA R?!
IT IS THE TIME OF PROPHECY, LARA-LE!
I'VE COME FOR THE LAD!


WHAT FOR ?!
I'M BUSY ENOUGH AS IT IS!


THEN YOU'RE ABOUT TO GET BUSIER!

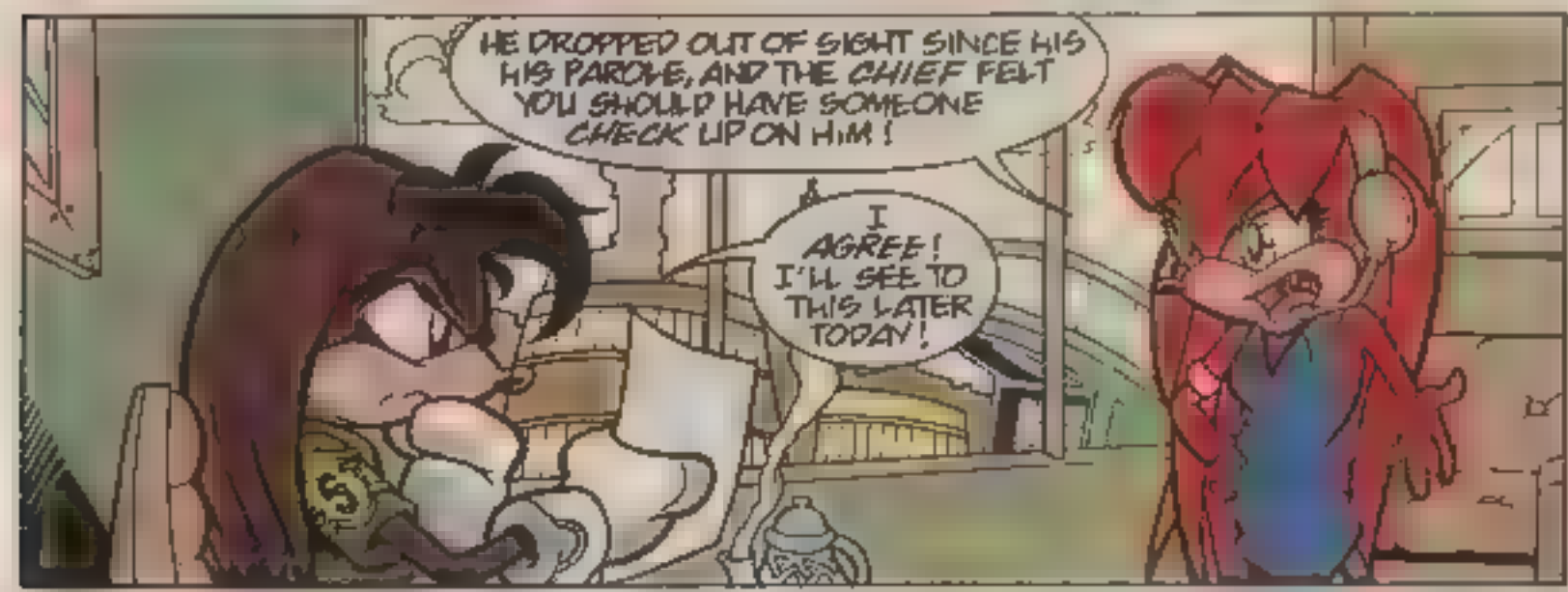
WHA-THUUM!

OH, KNUCKLES!


"JUST COME BACK SAFE AND SOUND TO ME!"
WHAT HAVE YOU GOT FOR ME, TERI-LU ?

HERE'S ALL THOSE REPORTS YOU ASKED FOR, A PLATE OF OAKMUND COOKIES, A CUP OF ARGYLEAN TEA--

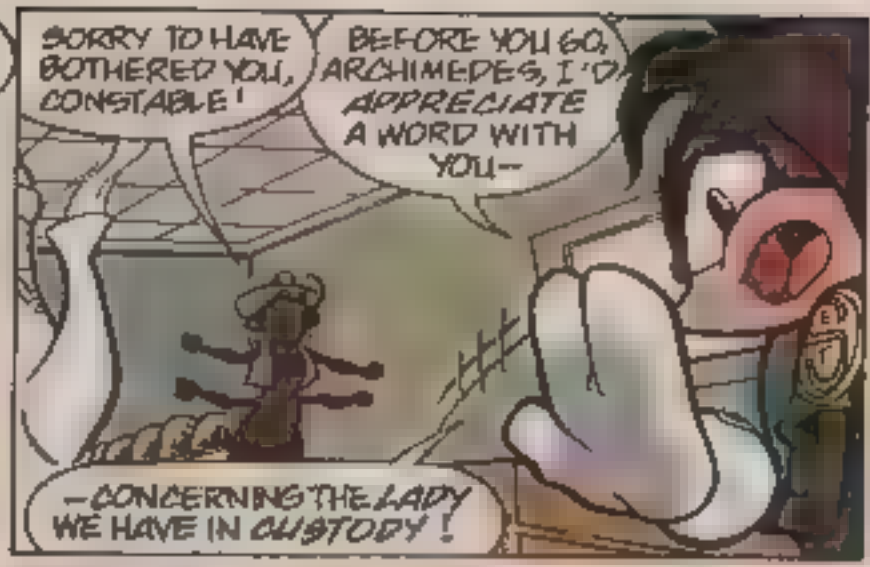
--AND THIS MUG SHOT!
NASTY LOOKING CREATURE! WHAT'S THE LOWDOWN ON THIS ONE?

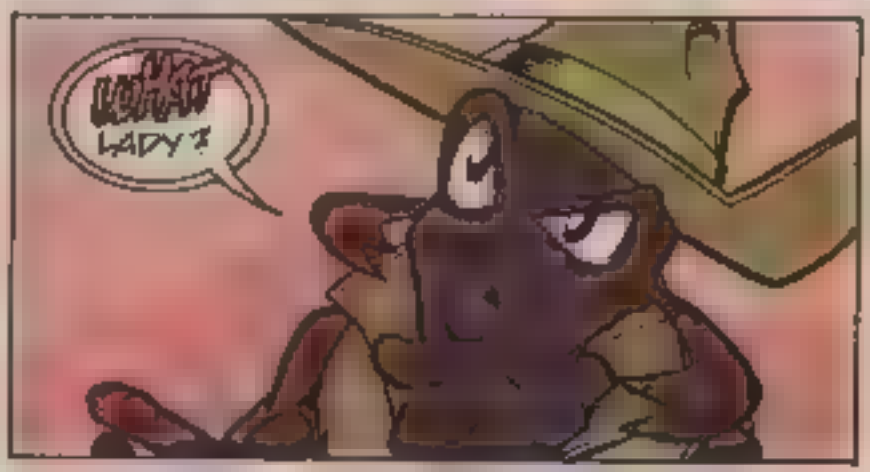

HE DROPPED OUT OF SIGHT SINCE HIS HIS PAROLE, AND THE CHIEF FELT YOU SHOULD HAVE SOMEONE CHECK UP ON HIM!
I AGREE! I'LL SEE TO THIS LATER TODAY!

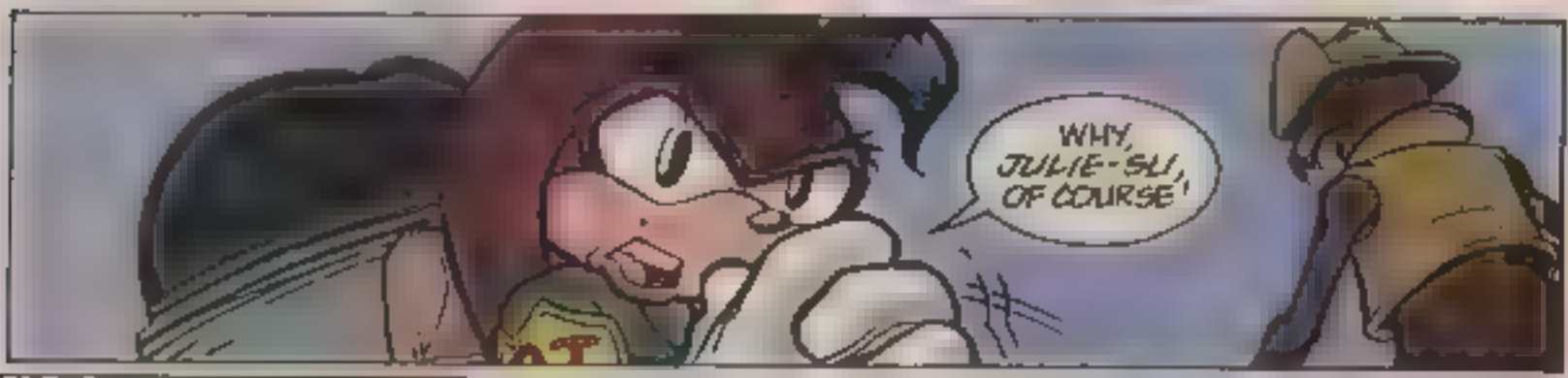
THANK YOU, TERI-LU!

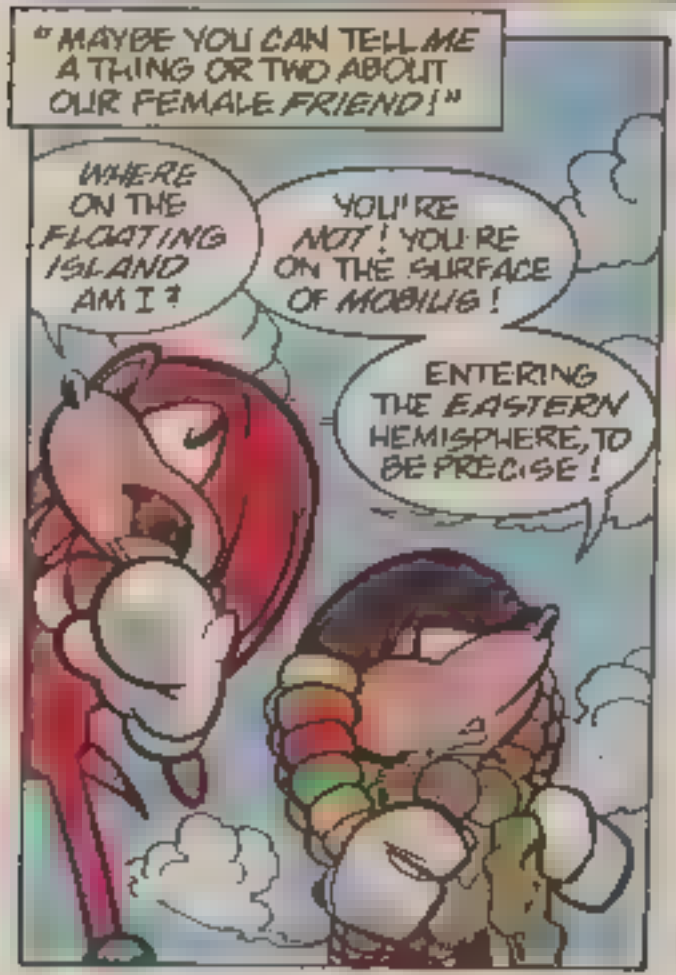
BAM!
HAVE YOU SEEN KNUCKLES, CONSTABLE? I WAS TOLD HE WAS HEADED FOR THIS STATION!

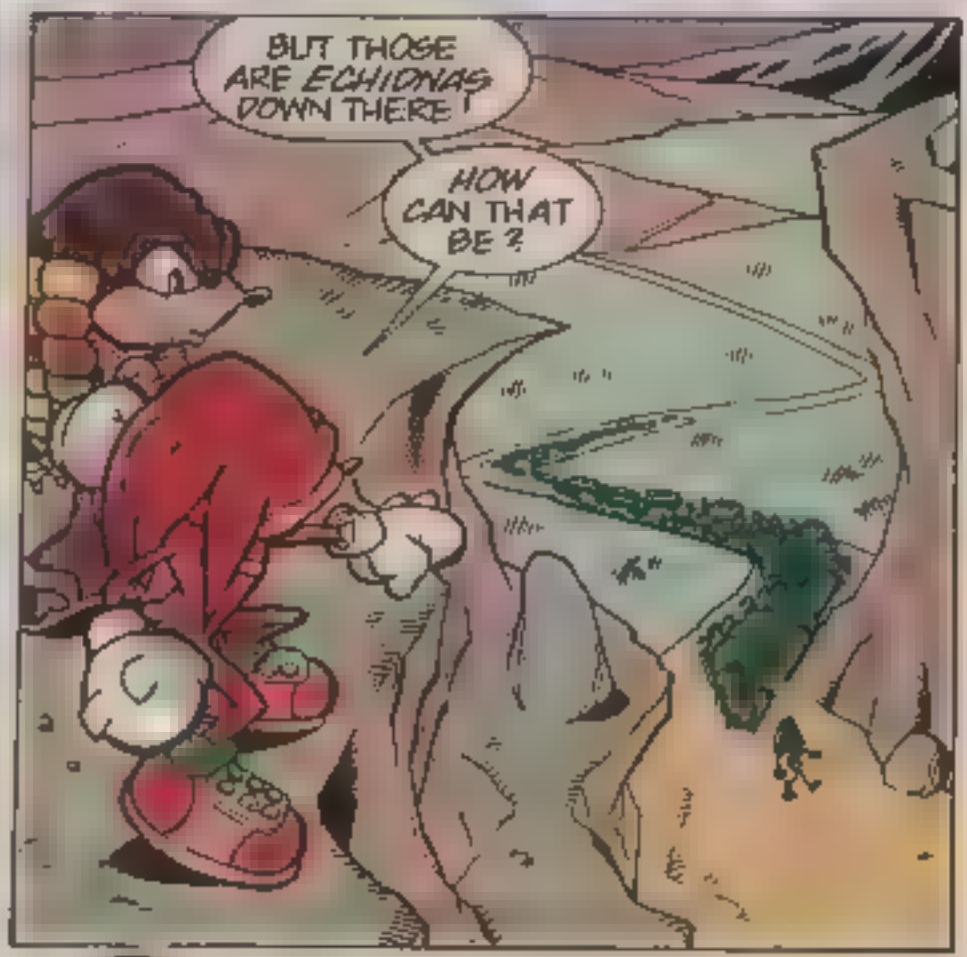
IF HE WAS, HE NEVER MADE IT!
HOW ODD! I USUALLY HAVEN'T A PROBLEM LOCATING HIS WHEREABOUTS.


SORRY TO HAVE BOTHERED YOU, CONSTABLE!
BEFORE YOU GO, ARCHIMEDES, I'D APPRECIATE A WORD WITH YOU—
—CONCERNING THE LADY WE HAVE IN CUSTODY!


WHAT LADY?


WHY, JULIE-SU, OF COURSE!


"MAYBE YOU CAN TELL ME A THING OR TWO ABOUT OUR FEMALE FRIEND!"
WHERE ON THE FLOATING ISLAND AM I?
YOU'RE NOT! YOU'RE ON THE SURFACE OF MOBIUS!
ENTERING THE EASTERN HEMISPHERE, TO BE PRECISE!


BUT THOSE ARE ECHIDNAS DOWN THERE!
HOW CAN THAT BE?

IT WAS THE CHOICE THEIR ANCESTORS MADE A LONG TIME AGO--

--DURING THE TIME OF THE COMING DISASTER ALMOST 600 YEARS AGO!

I'M ALL EARS--GREAT GRANDFATHER!

VERY WELL, KNUCKLES!

PAY CLOSE ATTENTION, AS OUR TALE BEGINS MANY GENERATIONS AGO--WITH A SCIENTIST COUPLE--YOUR ANCESTORS, JOR-DANN AND KAYLA-LA--WHO DISCOVERED A COMET ON A COLLISION COURSE WITH ECHIDNAOPOLIS- *

*SEE "A SENSE OF HISTORY" IN SONIC #34 JUSTIN

"UPON CONFRONTED WITH KAYLA-LA'S SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM, A HOLY MAN--

"--OBJECTED IN FRONT OF ONE AND ALL!"

ECHIDNAS WERE NOT MEANT TO SOAR IN THE CLOUDS, BUT TO HARVEST THE LAND HERE IN DOWNLANDIA!

"THERE WAS A DEBATE, WHICH RESULTED IN THE HIGH COUNCIL AGREEING TO KAYLA-LA'S RECOMMENDATION."

THOUGH IT SADDENS ME GREATLY, I CANNOT SUPPORT ARAKKIS IN THIS MATTER

THAT MAKES IT UNANIMOUS THEN!

"SINCE ARAKKIS WOULD NOT ACCEPT "NO" FOR AN ANSWER, HE MADE A COUNTER-PROPOSAL!"

ALLOW THOSE WHO WISH TO FOLLOW ME OF THEIR OWN FREE WILL, AND I WILL MAKE NO EFFORT TO STAND IN YOUR WAY!

"THE HIGH COUNCIL MORE THAN JUST AGREED; THEY GAVE THE POPULACE EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO DECIDE FOR THEMSELVES WHICH PATH TO FOLLOW."

HALL of SCIENCE

"THOUGH WE BELIEVE OUR COURSE THE RIGHT ONE, ANYONE WISHING TO GO WITH ARAKKIS IS FREE TO DO SO.

"SINCE TIME WAS FAST BECOMING A PRECIOUS COMMODITY, THOSE WHO FELT THE SAME AS ARAKKIS SET OFF IN SEARCH OF A NEW HOME."

AS FOR THE ECHIDNAS WHO WENT ALOFT ON THE FLOATING ISLAND, IT TOOK ONLY THE APOCALYPTIC SIGHT OF AN EXPLODING COMET TO ERASE ANY REGRETS THEY MAY HAVE HAD!

WE KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO THOSE ON THE FLOATING ISLAND SINCE THEN--

--BUT WHAT ABOUT ARAKKIS AND HIS PEOPLE?

THEY HAVE WANDERED EVER SINCE, SEEKING LAND THEY CAN CALL HOME!

UNFORTUNATELY--

--THERE ARE OTHERS ON THIS PLANET WHO AREN'T AS NEIGHBORLY AS YOU WOULD THINK.

THEY WOULD SETTLE A TERRITORY THEY THOUGHT PERFECTLY SAFE, ONLY TO DISCOVER THOSE WITH A PRIOR CLAIM--

WE BARELY HAVE ENOUGH FOOD TO FEED OUR OWN KIND.

YOU MUST LOOK ELSEWHERE!

"--OR ENCOUNTER THOSE WHO WOULD WISH THEM HARM."

"IT WASN'T MUCH LONGER BEFORE ONE *FACT* BECAME APPARENT. THEIR *TECHNOLOGY* COULD ONLY CARRY THEM SO FAR."

WITHOUT *SPARE* PARTS, THIS BABY'S HAD IT!

SLAAM!

"WITHOUT A WORD OF *COMPLAINT*, THE TRIBE WAS *AS ONE* IN THE DECISION TO *ABANDON* THE ARTIFACTS OF THE *PAST*, AND SET OFF FOR A *SIMPLER* EXISTENCE IN ITS *FUTURE*!"

"THAT NIGHT THE *ANCIENT WALKERS* CAME TO *ARAKKIS*! HE WAS *STARTLED* AT F RST--"

--BUT WAS SOON *HUMBLED* BY THE *PROMISE* OF THESE *MYSTICAL* BEINGS IN HELPING H M LOOK AFTER THE TRIBE!

I TAKE IT THE *SET-UP* WAS PRETTY MUCH LIKE THE *GUARDIANS*!

ARAKKIS DID HIS JOB AND HANDED IT OFF TO HIS *SON*!

THERE IS A *DIFFERENCE*!

WITH THE *GUARDIANS*--

"—ONLY THOSE RELATED THROUGH BLOOD CAN EVER BE ONE!"

DON'T BOTHER MY TAIL NONE IF THAT WITCH ROTS HER DAYS AWAY IN SOME RATHOLE!

WE WOULDN'T BE HERE IF JULIE-SU HAD FOLLOWED HER ORDERS!*

* SEE KNUCKLES #6 -JUSTIN

I HAVE TO GO ALONG WITH MIGHTY ON THIS ONE, VEC!

SHE COULD HAVE ICED US—AND SHE DIDN'T!

YOUR BRAINS'RE SCRAMBLED, BUBBA!

THAT BABE IS NOTHING BUT BAD NEWS!

GIVE IT A REST, VECTOR! THIS IS KNUCKLES' CONCERN MORE THAN OURS, ANYWAY!

SAYS WHO?

UH-OH!

LOOKS LIKE I'M NOT A MOMENT TOO SOON!

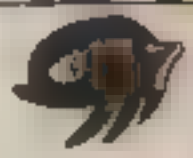
TIME OUT, PEOPLE!

INSPECTOR REMINGTON SENT ME TO GET YOU GUYS-

—AND HE WANTS US NOW, NOT YESTERDAY!!

FINALLY! SOMETHING TO DO!

ONE CAN ONLY HOPE—



"--HE'S GOT SOMETHING FUN IN MIND!"

IT'S JUST A BIT FURTHER BEFORE WE'RE OUT OF THE CANYONS, EVERYONE!

SO HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED WITH THIS GROUP, ATH--ER, GREAT GRANDFATHER?

HOLD ON, KNUCKLES!

SOMETHING'S WRONG!

WRONG?

IT'S AS QUIET AS AN AURORILIM!

IT IS TIME!

THE DAY OF FURY MUST BE AT HAND!

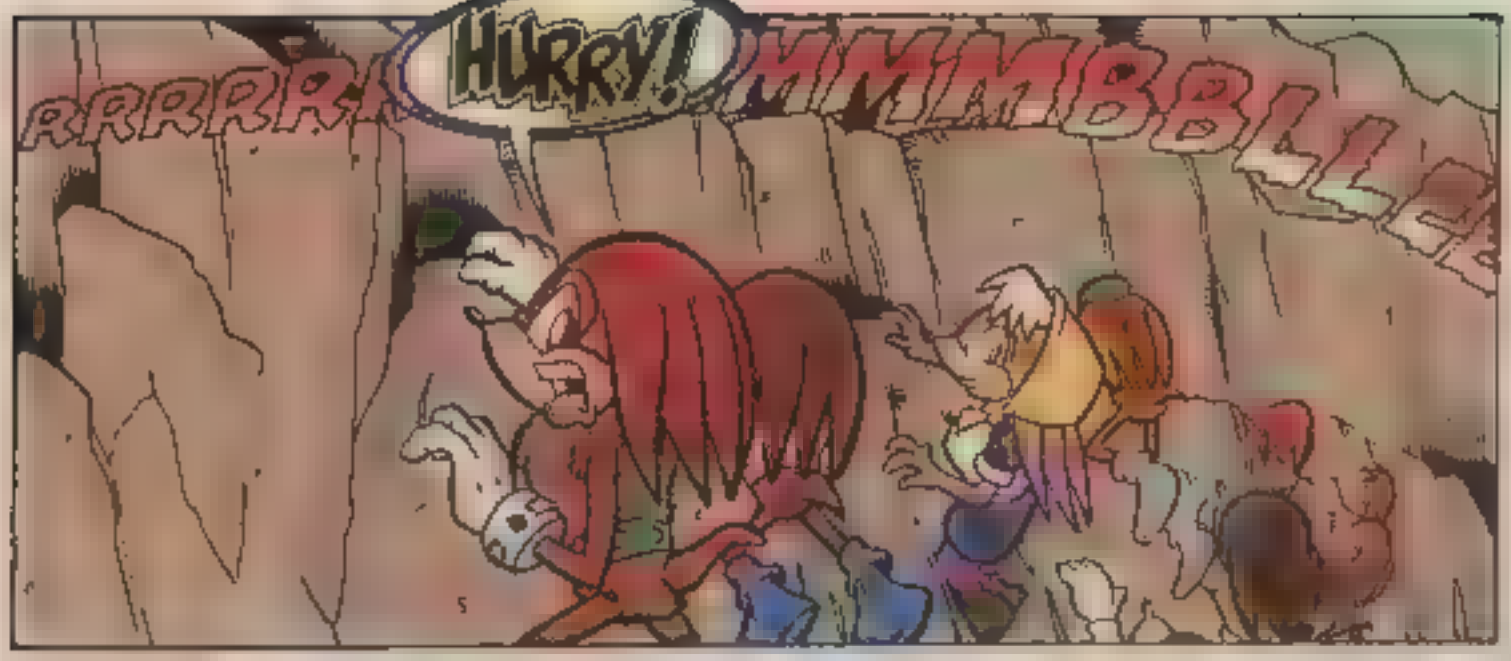
"MUST BE?" DON'T YOU KNOW?

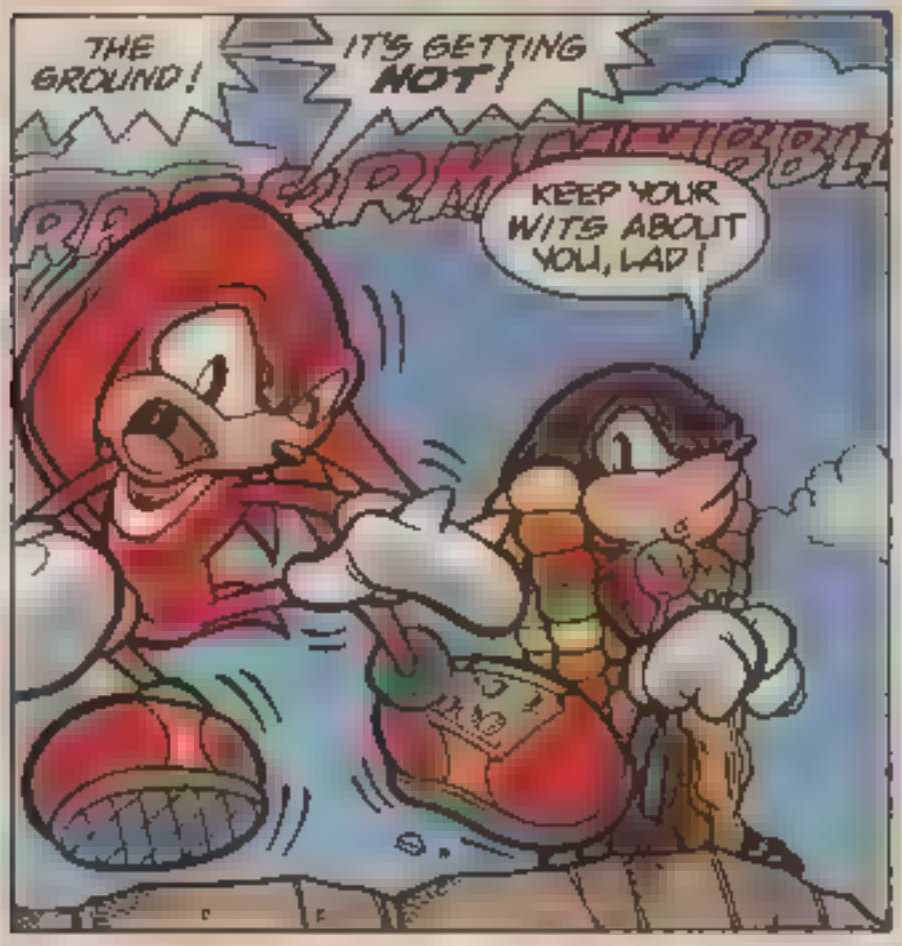
I THOUGHT THE PROPHECIES TOLD YOU WHEN!

THE TOME OF PROPHECIES GIVES US SIGNS TO LOOK FOR! IT DOESN'T LIST EXACT DATE AND TIME DOWN TO THE MINUTE!

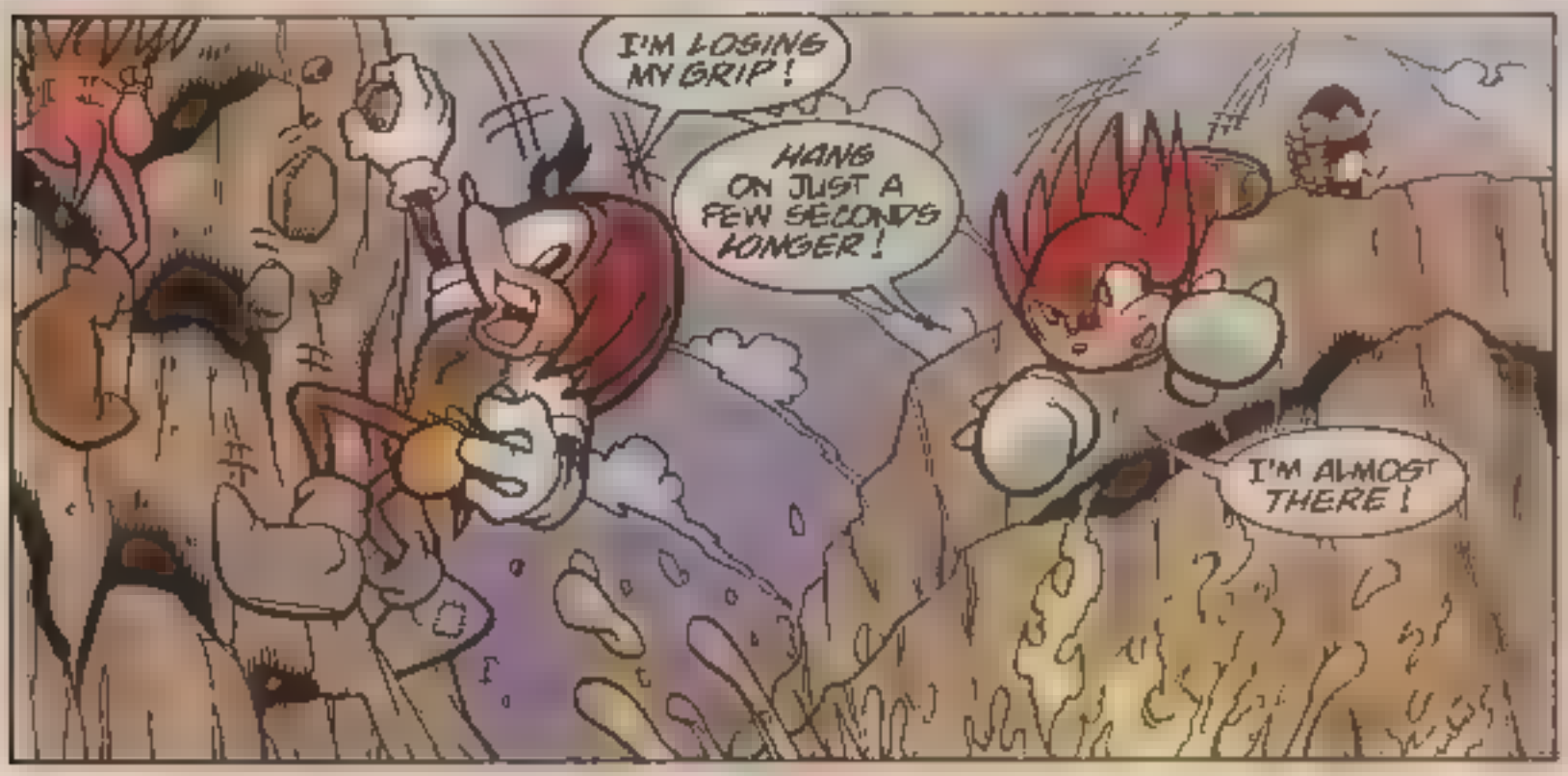
I DON'T LIKE THIS!

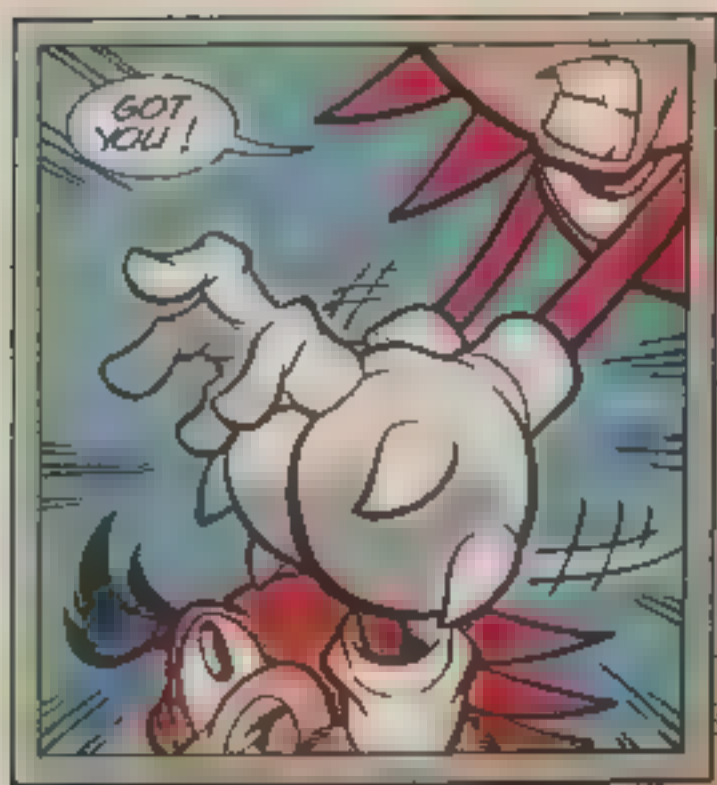
TAKE TO THE HIGH GROUND, EVERYONE!

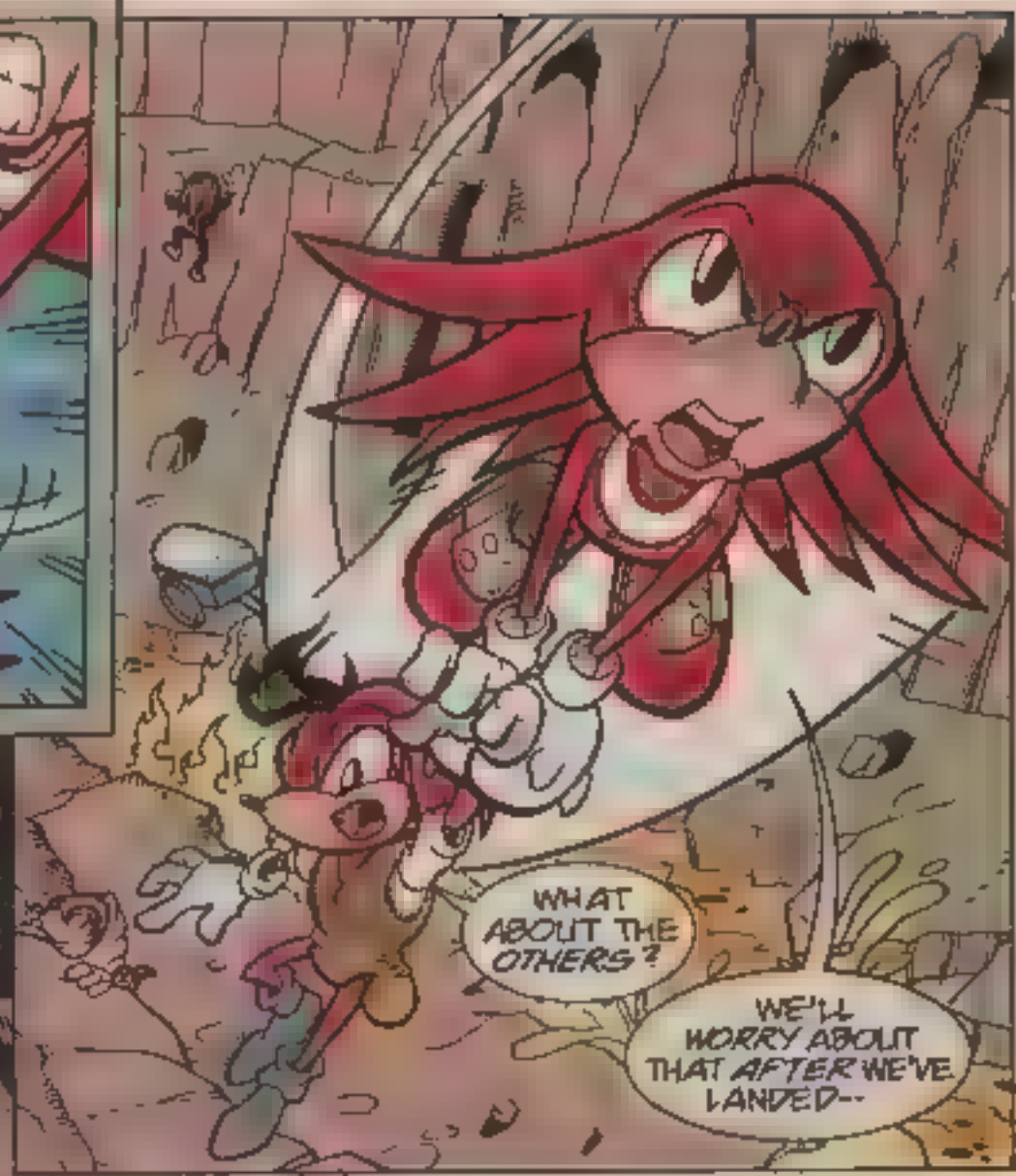

RRRRR!
HURRY!
MMMBBLLE

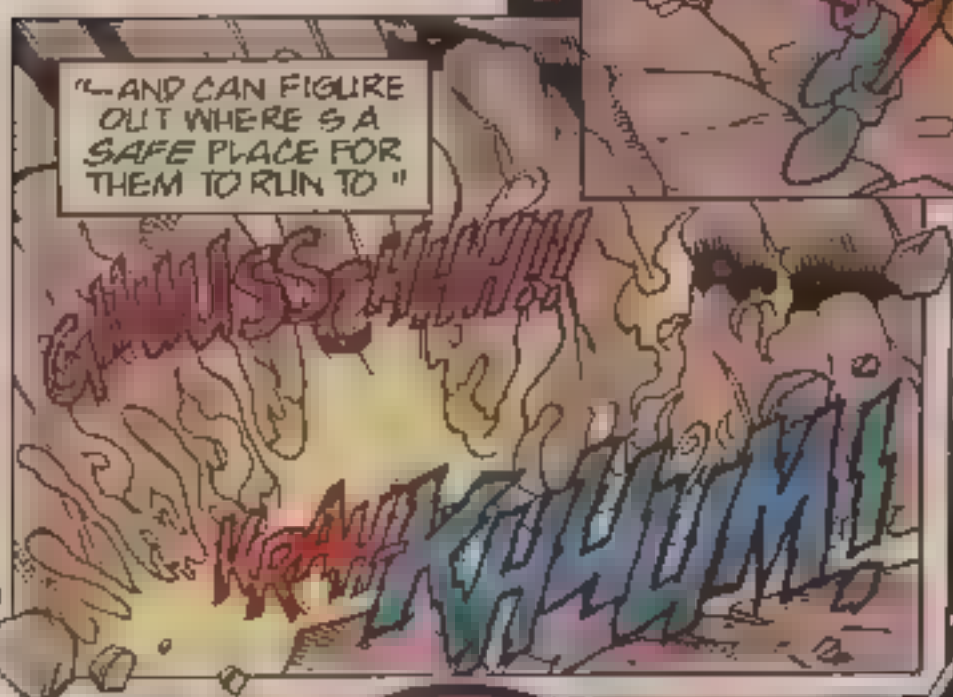

THE GROUND!
IT'S GETTING NOT!
KEEP YOUR WITS ABOUT YOU, LAD!

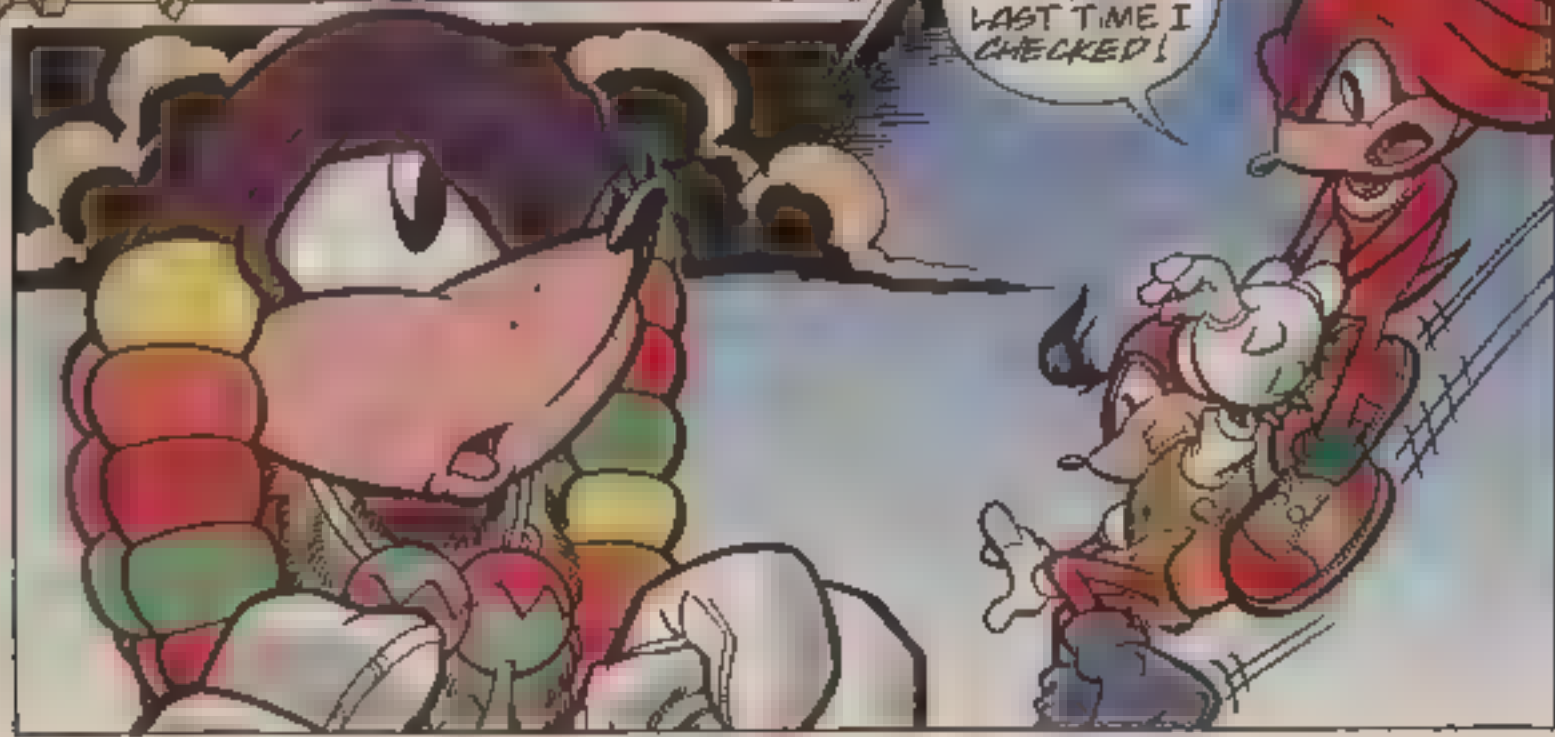
DADDY!! WHAT'S HAPPENING TO THE GROUND?!
KRRRUMM

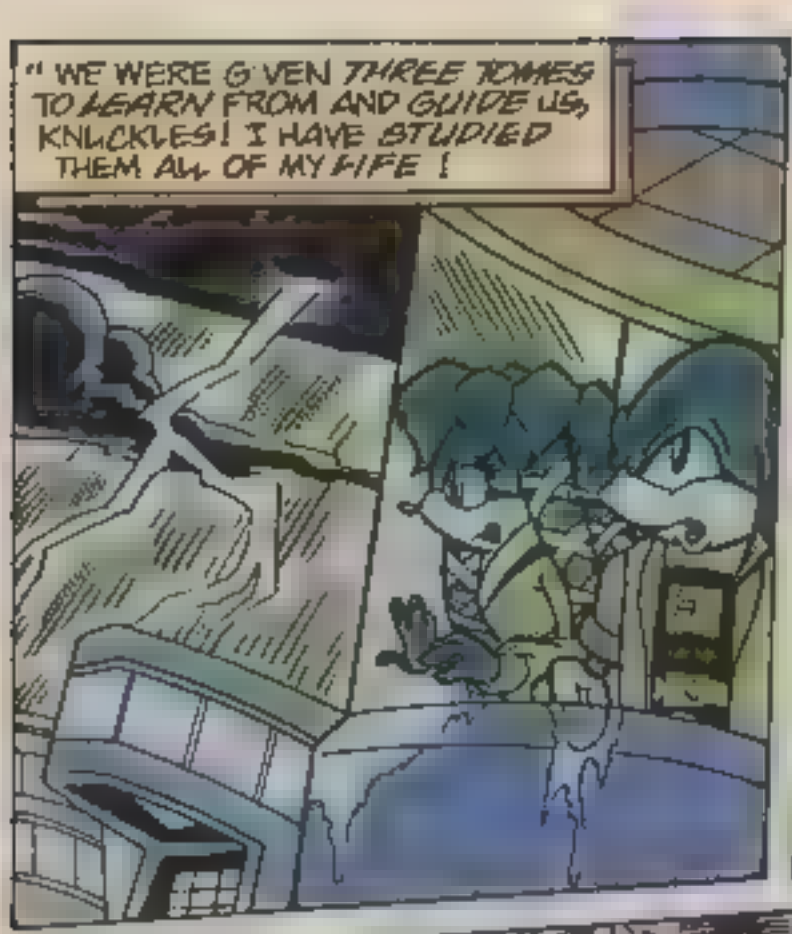

I'M LOSING MY GRIP!
HANG ON JUST A FEW SECONDS LONGER!
I'M ALMOST THERE!

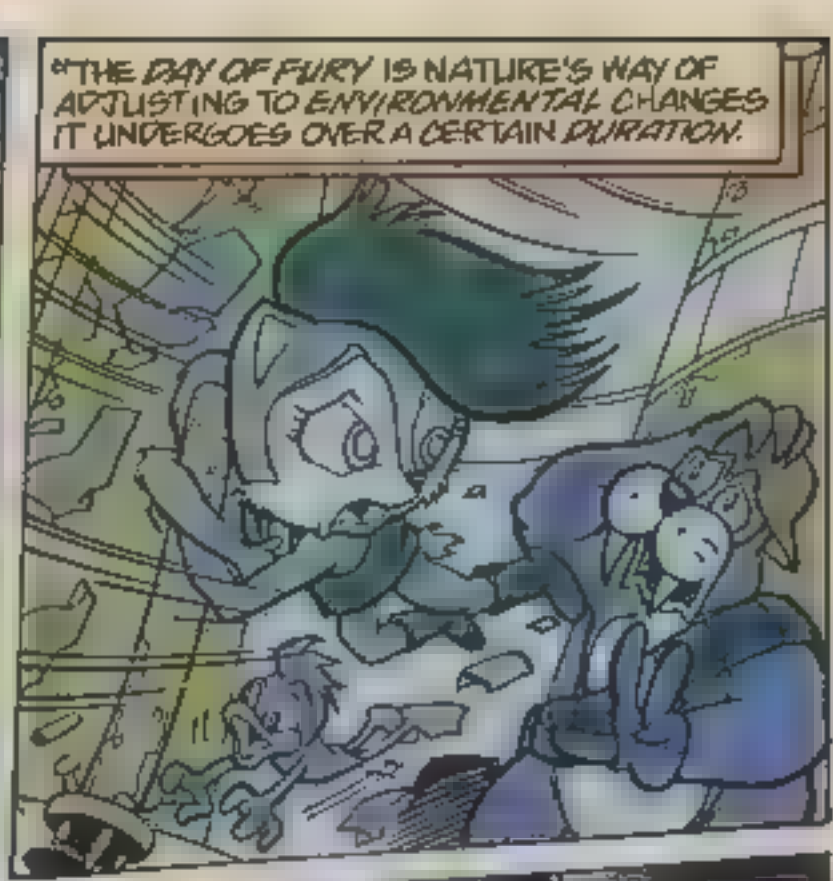

GOT YOU!

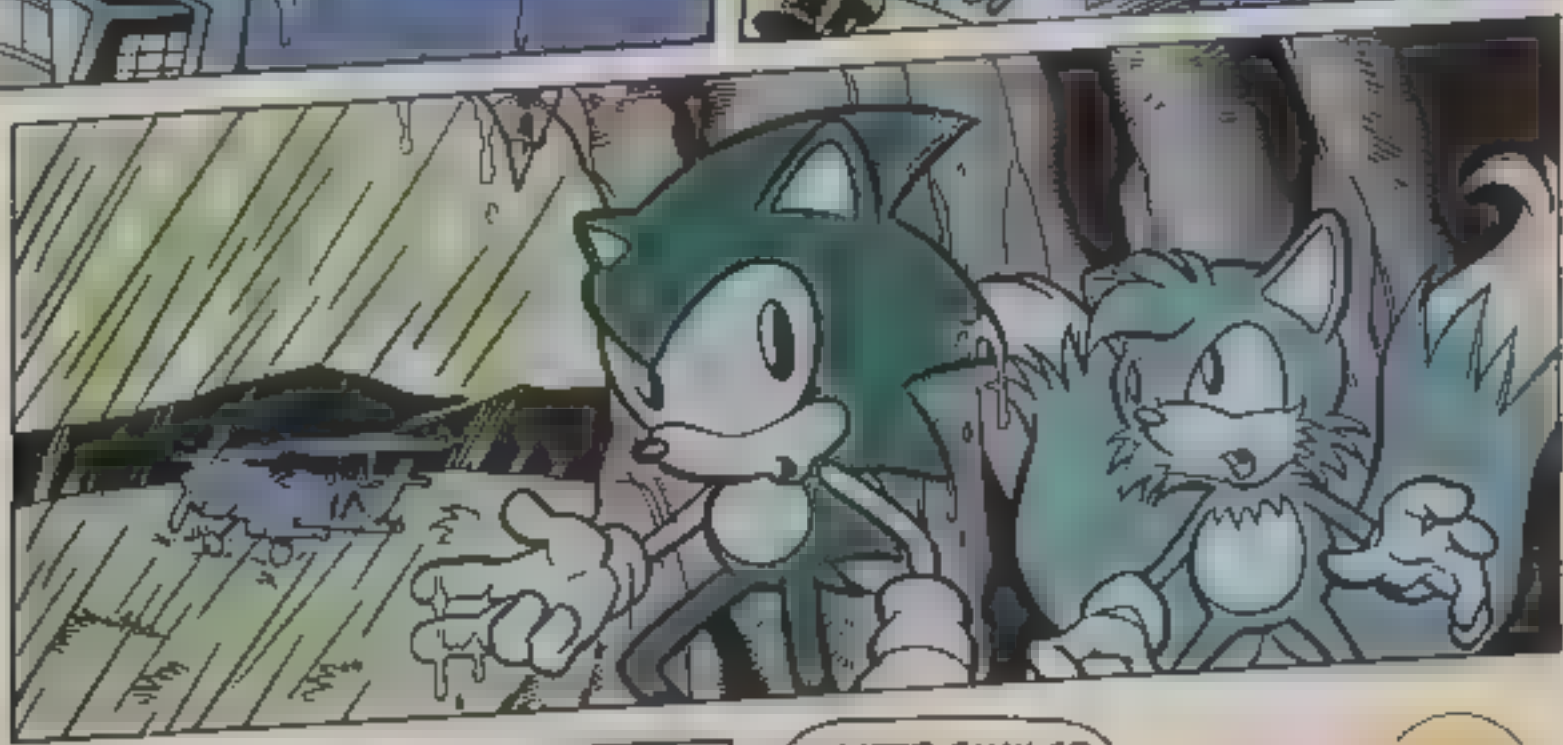

WHAT ABOUT THE OTHERS?
WE'LL WORRY ABOUT THAT AFTER WE'VE LANDED--

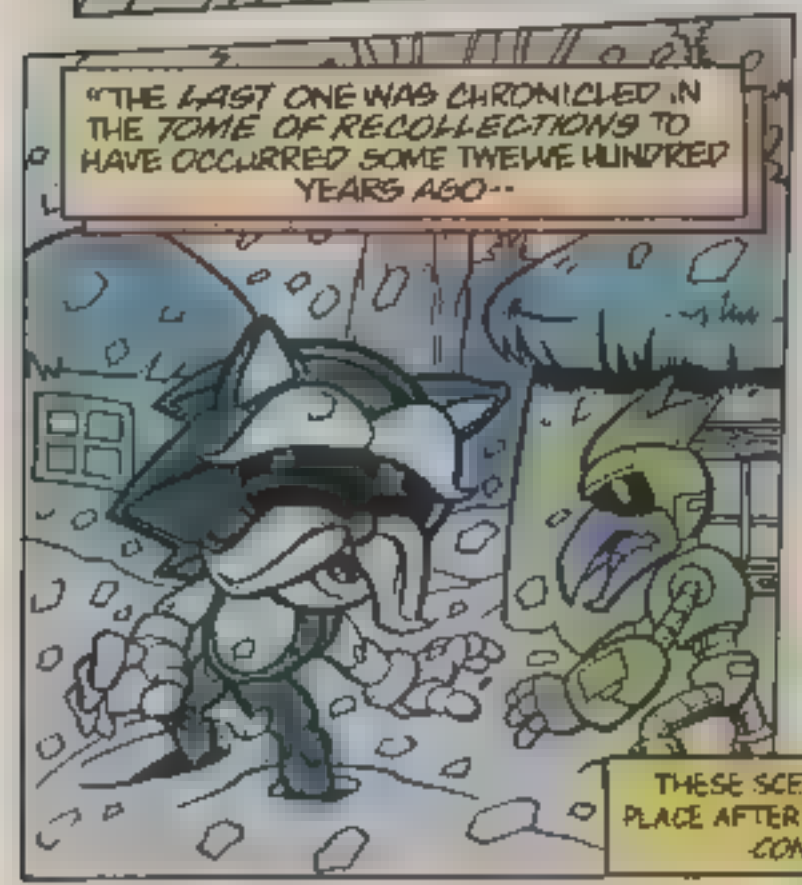

"--AND CAN FIGURE OUT WHERE'S A SAFE PLACE FOR THEM TO RUN TO."
SSCHHHH
KHUUM!

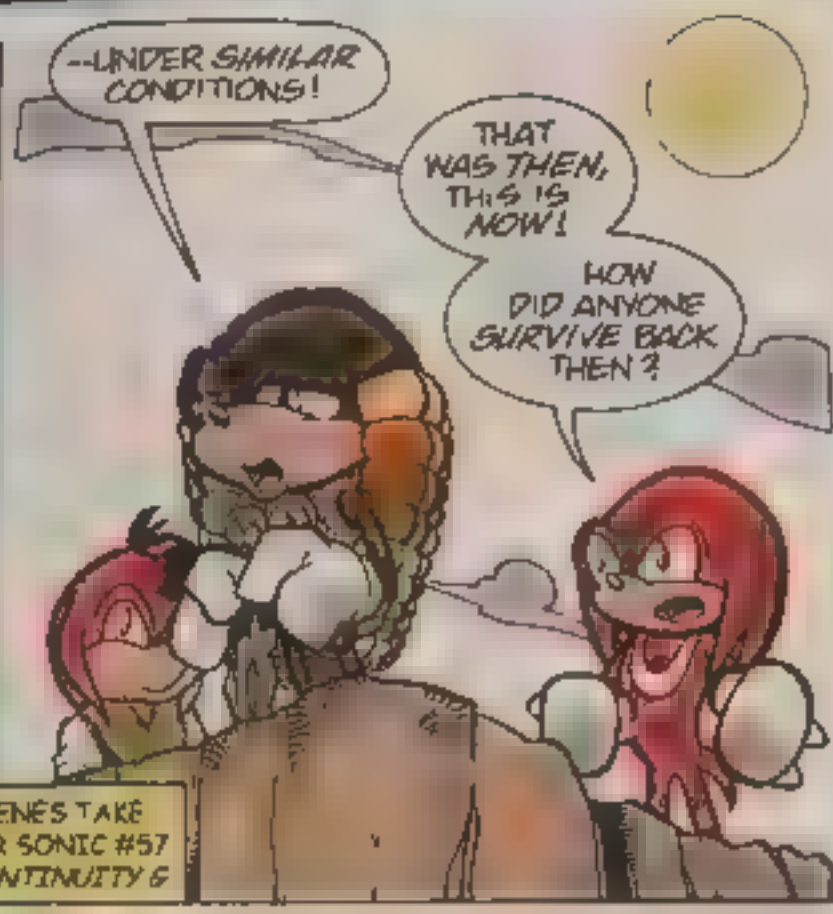

THIS IS THE DAY OF FURY! THERE IS NO SAFE PLACE ANYWHERE, KNUCKLES!
HOW DO YOU KNOW?
THIS IS A BIG PLANET!
LEAST IT WAS LAST TIME I CHECKED!



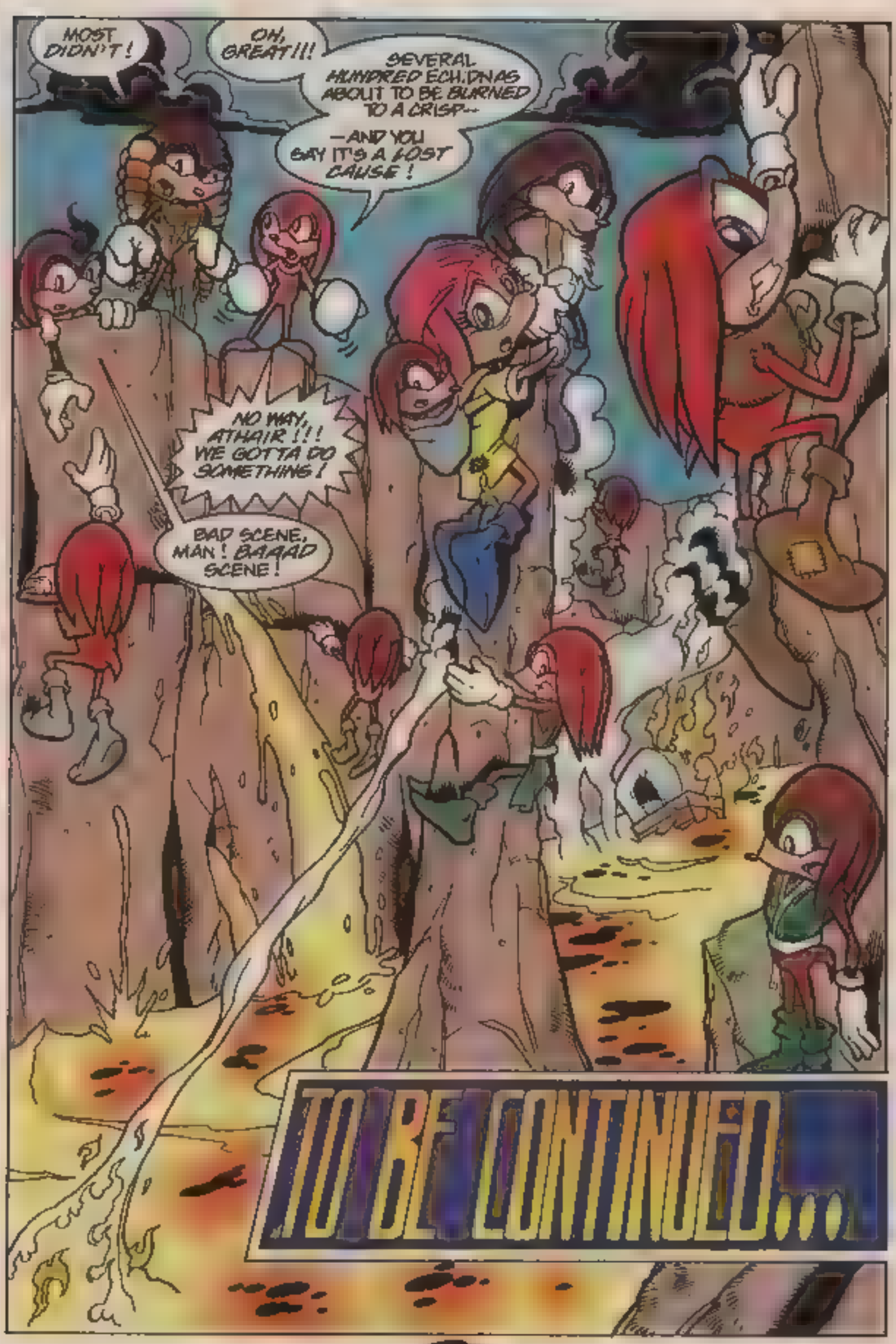








THESE SCENES TAKE PLACE AFTER SONIC #57 CONTINUITY 6


MOST DIDN'T!
OH, GREAT!!!
SEVERAL HUNDRED ECHIDNAS ABOUT TO BE BURNED TO A CRISP--
--AND YOU SAY IT'S A LOST CAUSE!
NO WAY, ATHAIR!!! WE GOTTA DO SOMETHING!
BAD SCENE, MAN! BAAAD SCENE!
TO BE CONTINUED...

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SEGA OF LETTERS

NEXT MONTH:
LEARN THE SECRETS OF THE MOST ENIGMATIC ECHIDNA OF THEM ALL!

KNUCKLES #11
ON SALE FEBRUARY 1998

WITH THIS ISSUE, WE FINALLY UNCOVER THE SECRETS OF WHY **ATHAIR** ABANDONED HIS CALLING TO BE **GUARDIAN OF THE FLOATING ISLAND**. WHY DID HE INSTEAD PICK UP THE MANTLE OF LEADING **THE FORGOTTEN TRIBE** IN SEARCH OF THEIR NEW HOMELAND. IT'S AN EPIC OF OBLIGATION AND FAMILY RESPONSIBILITY, SETTING THE GROUNDWORK FOR THINGS TO COME! AND WAIT UNTIL YOU SEE THIS CLIFFHANGER ENDING!

NOTE: THIS ISSUE CONTINUES INTO SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #58 AND CONCLUDES IN KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #12. WRITTEN BY KEN PENDERS WITH ART BY MANNY GALAN AND ANDREW PEPOY. KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #11 ON SALE FEBRUARY 1998!

IN OTHER SEGA NEWS... IN ONE WEEK: AS **SONIC AND THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS** TRAVEL BACK HOME FOLLOWING THE EVENTS OF SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #56, THINGS HAVE GONE FROM BAD TO WORSE. IN THE ABSENCE OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS, **KING ACORN'S NEW EDICT** HAS BEEN ISSUED: **"DISMANTLE ALL ROBIANS!"** WITH BATTLE LINES DRAWN STRAIGHT DOWN THE MIDDLE BETWEEN KING ACORN AND **UNCLE CHUCK**, THE QUESTION REMAINS... WHO WILL **SONIC** AND THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS SIDE WITH? THIS ONE MUST NOT BE MISSED. STORY BY KARL BOLLERS WITH ART BY SAM MAXWELL AND PAM ELLUND. PLUS: THE ONE STORY YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR: HOW DID **BUNNIE AND ANTOINE** ESCAPE **CROCBOT'S** CLUTCHES? THIS ISSUE CONTAINS THE ANSWER. STORY BY MIKE GALLAGHER, ART CHORES BY NELSON ORTEGA AND PAM ELLUND.

SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #4: "RETURN OF THE KING" ON SALE JANUARY 1998!

SONIC
SUPER SPECIAL #4
ON SALE JANUARY 1998

IN THREE WEEKS: WITNESS THE PAST UNFOLD AS SONIC AND THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS REMINISCE ABOUT TIMES GONE BY - - THE JOY, THE SADNESS, THE LOSSES AND THE VICTORIES! THIS STORY IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY KARL BOLLERS, ART MAWHINNEY AND JIM APASH. **SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #57 ON SALE LATE JANUARY 1998!**

IN FOUR WEEKS: THE ULTIMATE SHOWDOWN BEGINS! WIZEMAN THE WICKED ISN'T GOING TO WAIT ANOTHER HUNDRED YEARS BEFORE HE CAN MAKE REALITY INTO A WORLD OF NIGHTMARES! HIS TIME TO STRIKE IS NOW! HE WILL NOT ALLOW THE TWO PERFECT DREAMERS OF THIS TIME, **CLARIS AND ELLIOT**, TO STAND IN HIS WAY, AND IF **NIGHTS**, HIS FORMER HENCHMAN, IS FOOLISH ENOUGH TO HELP THEM, THEN WIZEMAN HAS NO CHOICE BUT TO SIC **REALA** AFTER HIM. ESPECIALLY WHEN REALA IS THE ONLY NIGHTMAREN TO DEFEAT NIGHTS! AND IF HE BEAT HIM BEFORE... HE CAN BEAT HIM AGAIN! HAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA!!! **NIGHTS INTO DREAMS #3 (OF 3) ON SALE FEBRUARY 1998!**

CATCH YOU ON THE FLIP SIDE!

Freddy

NOTE: DUE TO AN OVERWHELMING AMOUNT OF EMAIL, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR US TO REPLY PERSONALLY TO EACH AND EVERY MESSAGE. HOWEVER, YOUR OPINIONS ARE IMPORTANT TO US AND EACH MESSAGE WILL BE READ.
THANKS FOR UNDERSTANDING

DEAR KNUCKLES,

YOU'RE MY FAVORITE CHARACTER OUT OF ALL THE OTHERS. YOU'RE TALENTED, QUICK AND COOL. I JUST READ KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #4 AND HAVE A FEW QUESTIONS:

1) WILL JULIE-SU APPEAR IN ANY OTHER COMICS AFTER KNUCKLES #5 & #6?
2) WILL ESPIO EVER HAVE HIS OWN MINI-SERIES?
3) WILL KNUCKLES EVER GET ALONG WITH JULIE-SU? 4) WILL KNUCKLES FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED TO ECHIDNAOPOLIS?

JOSHUA HAMPTON
BROWNSVILLE, TX

WHAT'S UP, JOSHUA? THANKS FOR THE COMPLIMENT. I'M NOT REALLY COMFORTABLE RECEIVING COMPLIMENTS SO DON'T WORRY, I WON'T LET IT GET TO MY HEAD LIKE IT DOES WITH SONIC. NOW ON TO THE ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS:
1)AS YOU KNOW BY NOW, JULIE-SU HAS NOT ONLY APPEARED IN ISSUES #5 & #6, BUT ALSO #7 TO THE PRESENT.
2) THERE ARE NO PLANS FOR AN ESPIO MINI-SERIES IN THE WORKS.
3) I DON'T KNOW. TIME WILL TELL.
4) YEAH, I FOUND OUT IN KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA AS I SAW ECHIDNAOPOLIS DISAPPEARED FROM THE FLOATING ISLAND.

HEY BROTHA',

WUZ UP? THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'M WRITING TO YOU AND I THINK I LIKE IT. IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU SHOWED UP IN ANOTHER ONE OF YOUR OWN SERIES. ANYWAY, MY NAME IS LAURA AND I JUST BECAME WILD ABOUT THE SONIC COMIC BOOK SERIES AS WELL AS YOURS SINCE I FIRST READ THEM. NOW, BEING AN ART AND COMIC BOOK FANATIC, I WOULD LIKE TO COMPLIMENT MANNY GALAN FOR ONCE AGAIN AMAZING US ALL WITH YOUR ART. I MEAN, THIS GUY IS "DA BEST" WHEN IT COMES TO DRAWING CHARACTERS AND THEIR GROUNDS. HERE TO SHARE HER QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS IS MY GOOD PEN-PAL, FELINA. I'LL LET HER TALK NOW:

BUENOS DIAS, MIS AMIGOS! FIRST OFF, I'D LIKE TO SAY I AGREE WITH LAURA, MANNY GALAN IS THE BEST! HE REALLY KNOWS HOW TO DRAW THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS AND THE CHAOTIX. I THINK, OUT OF ALL THE CHAOTIX, KNUCKLES IS THE MOST "GUAPO" (HANDSOME). NOW I KNOW IT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS, BUT DO YOU AND JULIE-SU HAVE SOMETHING GOING ON? TELL THE CHAOTIX "HOLA" FOR ME. ESPECIALLY THAT FINE, COOL CHICK VECTOR.

DON'T MIND FELINA, SHE'S A GOOD GIRL AT HEART. SEE YOU IN THIRTY, SWEET KNUCKLES.

SINCERELY,
LAURA LEDDAN AND FELINA
HICKORY HILLS, IL

WELL, GIRLS, MANNY GALAN IS A FINE ARTIST. HE'S ALSO A GENTLEMAN AND A SCHOLAR. HE THANKS YOU FOR YOUR KIND WORDS. I GUESS JULIE-SU AND I ARE FRIENDS (IF YOU COULD CALL IT THAT) AND THAT'S IT. VECTOR SAYS, "HOLA BACK AT 'CHA!"

DEAR KNUCKLES,

I'M A FAN. GLAD YOU FINALLY GOT YOUR OWN (WELL-DESERVED) SERIES. INSTEAD OF HAVING TO TAG ALONG IN SONIC'S [illegible] SONIC'S MINI-SERIES, IT WAS ESTABLISHED THAT LONG AGO AN ECHIDNA SCIENTIST NAMED DIMITRI TRIED TO ABSORB THE POWER OF THE CHAOS EMERALDS INTO THE CHAOS SYPHON BUT INSTEAD ABSORBED THEM INTO HIMSELF AND BECAME ENERJAX. SINCE HE ONLY ABSORBED THE ENERGIES OF ELEVEN (OUT OF THE TWELVE) EMERALDS, WHY DIDN'T YOU ALWAYS FALL TO THE CHAOTIX AS YOU HAD PLANNED?

HANAH RUTHERFORD (AGE 10)
XWINGVET@AOL.COM

THE ECHIDNA SCIENTISTS REALLY HAD NO IDEA HOW LIMITLESS THE POWER OF ONE CHAOS EMERALD WOULD BE. SO THEY USED AS MANY CHAOS EMERALDS AS THEY COULD FIND. WHEN ENERJAX ABSORBED ALL BUT ONE OF THEM, THEY FOUND OUT IT WAS ENOUGH TO KEEP THE ISLAND AFLOAT.

DEAR KNUCKLES,

CONGRATS ON GETTING YOUR OWN SERIES! I JUST READ #4 AND LOVED IT. I LIKE HOW MR. PENDERS REVEALS YOUR PAST, BIT BY BIT. YOU HAVE NOW BECOME MY FAVORITE CHARACTER AND AM GLAD THAT I CAN FOLLOW YOUR ADVENTURES MONTH AFTER MONTH. QUESTION TIME: 1) WHEN DID YOUR ANCESTOR [illegible] KNUCKLES? I MEANT THAT BEFORE EDMUND, THE FIRST GUARDIAN, WAS HIS SON STEPPERWOLF HAVE THEM. 2) WHO IS LARA-LE? 3) WHO WERE THOSE GUYS AT THE END OF #4 WITH THE E.S.T. ON THEIR HATS? 4) WILL YOU BE MAKING ANY MORE APPEARANCES AS HYPER KNUCKLES? 5) WILL YOU [illegible]

MARK "DOUG" DEDOMENIC
MJKDUX@AOL.COM

1) I DON'T KNOW EXACTLY WHEN, BUT YOU BETTER BELIEVE THAT'S JUST ONE OF THE MANY QUESTIONS I WANT ANSWERS TO. ONE DAY, I WILL GET THEM.
2) LARA-LE IS MY MOM. 3) THAT WAS REMINGTON WITH SOME MEMBERS OF THE ECHIDNA SECURITY TEAM. THEY WANTED TO MAKE SURE WE WEREN'T HOSTILE VISITORS. 4) IF YOU READ SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #56, THEN YOU GOT TO SEE ME AS HYPER KNUCKLES ALONG WITH SUPER SONIC AND TURBO TAILS. 5) AS OF SONIC #53, SONIC AND I HAVE A NEW UNDERSTANDING WITH EACH OTHER. YEAH, I'D SAY WE'RE FRIENDS.

SO UNTIL NEXT MONTH, STAY COOL!

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